PORTLAND INQUIRER.

AUSTIN WILLEY, Editor.
BROWN THURSTON, Publisher.

All Men are Created Equal.--Declaration of Independence.

Terms, { $2,00 A YEAR. / $1,75 IN ADVANCE.

VOL. X. PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 2, 1851. NO. 1.

THE PORTLAND INQUIRER,
IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT
PORTLAND, ME., 68 EXCHANGE ST.
WILLEY & THURSTON,
PROPRIETORS.

Terms—$2,00 a year, or $1,75 in advance, or within 30 days invariably.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at 3 cents a line for the first insertion, and 2 cents for every succeeding insertion; 18 lines to the square. The usual discount made to those who advertise by the year.

Communications are to be addressed to the EDITOR, Business Letters to the PUBLISHER, and both, post-paid.

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSHUA R. GIDDINGS,

In the House of Representatives at Washington,
Monday, Dec. 9, 1850.

Mr. Giddings rose and said: I move sir, to insert between the resolution last read and the one succeeding, the following, as a distinct resolution:

Resolved, That so much of said message and accompanying documents as relates to the domestic policy, be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. G. continued as follows: It has been usual, sir, for this body, while considering the President's Message in Committee of the Whole, to investigate and examine its political character. In accordance with that freedom of discussion which has usually characterized our consideration of this document, I will avail myself of the present moment to examine that portion which relates to our domestic affairs. I did not anticipate, sir, that the message would be under consideration to-day, and I am not, therefore, prepared at present to give it that examination which I should have bestowed upon it, had I more time for preparation, for examining its details. There are some portions of the message which I heartily approve, which I desire to commend, and in which I most heartily coincide. In its general features and character, its boldness, its candor, its perfect frankness, it is highly to be approved. It is what was due from that high functionary. In all his positions, so far as he has laid them down, "whoso readeth can understand." There is no deception, nor any uncertainty in the President's position. Thus far I most cheerfully commend it. But, sir, I will call your attention to that portion of it which refers to our domestic policy, as being the most interesting to the House and country.

But before I proceed to the examination of that portion which relates to the fugitive bill, I will call the attention of the House to the President's views of the veto power. On this point he has not hesitated to speak his own views, and to cast aside and discard the doctrines on which he was elected.

It is well known that in the canvass of 1848 the Whig party avowed it as one of their cardinal principles, that the President should never exercise the prerogative of vetoing a bill unless it was clearly unconstitutional.—The President now goes so far in support of the unlimited use of the veto, as ever Jackson or Polk or Tyler professed to go.

For his boldness and frankness on this point he is entitled to our commendation. But I have a curiosity to see how many of his political friends will face about at this bidding of the Executive and discard their former doctrines.

But it is very evident that the President has an object in this change of views on the subject of the veto. By looking at the latter portion of the message, it is evident that he intends we shall understand, that he will veto any law for the repeal of the fugitive bill; and in order to open the way to that result, with some show of consistency, it was necessary for him to discard the doctrines on which he was elected. For his candor and boldness in thus casting aside the errors of his party, I think him entitled to our approbation.

The President next quotes that portion of the Constitution in which he says "the Constitution has made it the duty of the President to see that the laws be faithfully executed."

The necessity or propriety of this quotation is not so very obvious. I do not think it has been quoted for the last twenty-five years by any President; but it is now evidently quoted in consequence of the difficulties which have attended the arrest of fugitives under this law. It is an intimation that he will use the army and navy to execute this odious enactment.

One prominent feature of the whole message is, however, obvious. The President intends that the South shall understand that he intends to sustain their institutions.

The constitution provides that the "citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of the citizens of the several States." He knows that our free colored citizens of the North have been seized in southern States and sold into bondage—held in degrading servitude, that hundreds, and perhaps thousands are now bowing beneath the lash in southern chains.

Sir, does he allude to the return of these freemen?—Does he tell that this paramount law of the land shall be sustained—that he will see it duly executed? No, sir! he has not a word nor an allusion to this trancendent outrage upon the Constitution, while he is particular upon those laws which relate to the return of fugitive slaves.

Again: he has seen the agents of Massachusetts driven by mob violence from South Carolina and Lousiana, when sent there to see the laws executed by their courts for the relief of our freemen who are their held in degrading servitude; but he makes no allusion to these outrages.

I will now quote, with pleasure, a sentiment in which I fully concur. The President says, that "every citizen who truly loves the Constitution, and desires the continuance of its existence and its blessings, will resolutely and firmly resist any interference in those domestic affairs which the Constitution has clearly and unequivocally left to the exclusive authority of the States."

This, Mr. Chairman, is the doctrine of the Constitution, of its framers. It is the doctrine of the Free Soilers. If there be any one feature in the Constitution, which the whole history of its adoption has made plain, it is, that slavery is a State instititution over which Congress has no control—with which this Federal Government has no legitimate powers to interfere. We, sir, of the North, will not be constrained, even by your fugitive laws, to interfere with it. The slavery of Virginia belongs to her. If she possess the power and the disposition to uphold it, we cannot put it down or abolish it. If she sees fit to abolish it, we have no power to interfere to sustain it.

I have often defined the views of anti-slavery men, and of free soilers on this subject. Others have done it; yet we are misapprehended and misrepresented. The very clause of the message now under consideration, shows that the President intended to impute to some portion of our people an intention to interfere with slavery. He should have known that no respectable number of our nothern people have expressed any such wish or intention. But for the hundreth time I will say that, under the Confederation, each State held as supreme and unlimited powers over the institution of slavery within its own borders, as the Government of Russia holds over its serfs; that no other power upon earth possessed the right to interfere in any matter; that at the adoption of the constitution these powers were retained, and now remain with each State; that no portion of them was delegated to this Government; that we have as much power to-day to interfere with Russian serfdom as with Virginia slavery;—yet this fugitive law was a direct and positive attempt to interfere to involve this Government and the people of the free States in supporting slavery.

Nothing could have been further from the thoughts of those who framed the Constitution. In that Convention, Mr. Gouverneur Morris said that "*he never would concur in upholding domestic slavery.*" So say I, and so say our people of the North. We never will concur in upholding that institution. Mr. Morris added: "*It is a nefarious institution.* It was the curse of Heaven upon the States in which it existed."

So say we. It is a curse upon those States, but the curse is theirs, not ours, and we will not share in it.—Your fugitive law shall not compel us to share in it.—Our fathers would not consent to be involved in its crimes—we will not.

Mr. Gerry, of Massachusetts, said: "While we had nothing to do with slavery in the States, we should be careful to lend no sanction to it." Sir, we will lend no sanction to it, nor shall your fugitive law compel us to sanction it. Mr. Dickinson "thought it a proper subject for the General Government to interfere with, *as it affected our national happiness.*" But southern members resisted this proposition, and would not consent to any interferencce.

But, sir, to come more directly to this question of fugitive slaves. The report of the committee giving the form of the Constitution, contained a clause for the return of fugitives from justice. They were to be delivered up by the Executive of the State to which they fled. It is done at the expense of each State.

On considering the report, Messrs. Butler and Pinckney, of South Carolina, proposed to amend the report, so as to make it the duty to surrender up fugitives from labor in the same manner. But Mr. Wilson of Penn., objected that such an amendment would "compel the free States to do it at the public expense."

Mr. Sherman of Conn., said: "He could see no more propriety in arresting a fugitive servant or slave at the public expense than there would be in arresting a horse." And Mr. Butler, on these suggestions being made, withdrew his proposition. Sir, not a member of that body dared stand up then, and advocate an amendment, which should involve us in the expense or disgrace of arresting fugitive slaves. Sir, no stronger evidence of the accuracy of the views which I have expressed, could possibly have been left on record.

It was the intention of those framers of the Constitution to secure to the master the right to pursue and arrest *his slave* without molestation or hindrance.—They then declared that no law or regulation should be passed by any State, by which the fugitive should be released from service or labor; "non-intervention" was their doctrine. By the Constitution, we are bound to deliver up the fugitive slave to his master, in the same manner that we deliver up our friends to the civil officer. We were not permitted to interfere. We are to stand neutral, and permit the master to take his slave if he can.

Sir, did the framers of the Constitution intend that northern freemen should leave their shops, their plows, their merchandize, to give chase to fugitive slaves?—Why, such an assertion would be a slander, a libel upon those patriots. The law of 1793 was framed in accordance with the Constitution. That gives to the master no process for the arrest of his slave. It lends no aid of the Government, or of any of its officers, nor of any citizen of any State to aid or assist the master in arresting or carrying back his slave. That law secures him against interference on the part of any person to prevent him from arresting and returning his slave. Those who had assisted in framing the Constitution, assisted in framing this law. They knew the intention of those who framed the Constitution, and I have no doubt carried that intention into the law of 1793.

From that day until the agitation of the annexation of Texas, this doctrine of non-interference was held by southern and by northern men. In 1843, this new theory of prostituting the power of this Government in favor of slavery was put forth by the then Secretary of State; but no man in this House ever came forward with an argument in favor of that doctrine until the last session of Congress. The gentlaman from Georgia, (Mr. Toombs), not now in his seat, was the first to come forward in this Hall with an argument in favor of this new theory of subsidizing the people of the free States to the support of slavery.

Now, sir, with the President, I repeat, that no lover of the Constitution will seek to interfere in matters left with the States. We will not be made to interfere with it; but I must hasten to another expression of the President.

He tells us "the law is the only sure protection of the weak, and the only efficient restraint upon the strong." This, sir, is said in direct refference to this fugitive slave law. It would seem that the President intended to see how far he could impose upon the intelligence of the people. Sir, what protection does this law give to the poor, weak, oppressed, degraded slave, whose flesh has often quivered under the lash of his inhuman owner; whose youth has been spent in labor for another; whose intellect has been nearly blotted out? When he seeks an asylum in a land of freedom, this worse than barbarous law sends the officers of Government to chase him down. The people are constrained to become his pursuers. Famishing, fainting, and benumbed with the cold, he drags his weary limbs forward, while the whole power of the Government under the President's command, the army and navy, and all the freemen of the land, organized into a constabulary force, are on his track to drag him back to bondage, under this law. And this law, the President tells us, is the only sure protection to the miserable slave. The expression, appears to me, rather insulting to our intelligence.

Sir, there is not a man in this body—there is not an intelligent man in the free States, but knows, if he delivers a fugitive into the custody of his pursuers that he will be carried to the South and sold to the sugar and cotton plantations, and his life will be sacrificed in five years if employed on the sugar plantations. The men of the North, who look upon this as murder, would as soon turn out and cut the throat of the defenceless negro as to send him back to a land of chains and whips. As soon would they do this as comply with a law which violates every principle of common justice and humanity.—The law, sir, holds him who aids in a murder as guilty as he who strikes the knife to the heart of the victim. Under our law, a man is hanged if he fails to prevent a murder when it is plainly in his power to do so. Such man is held guilty of the act, and he is hanged accordingly. The man who should assist in the capture of a fugitive, would be regarded by us as guilty as he under whose lash the victim expires.

I have compared this capture of a fugitive to a common murder. In doing that I do injustice to the common murderer. To capture a slave and send him to the South to die under a torture of five years, is far more criminal than ordinary murder.

Sir, we will not commit this crime. Let me say to the President, no power of Government can compel us to involve ourselves in such guilt. No! The freemen of Ohio will never turn out to chase the panting fugitive—they will never be metamorphosed into blood-hounds, to track him to his hiding-place, and seize and drag him out, and deliver him to his tormentors. Rely upon it, they will die first. They may be shot down, the cannon and bayonet may do their work upon them; they may drown the fugitive in their blood, but never will they stoop to such degradation.

Let no man tell me there is no higher law than this fugitive bill. We fell there is a law of right, of justice, of freedom, implanted in the breast of every intelligent human being, that bids him look with scorn upon this libel upon all that is called law.

Sir. I was about to make some comparisons, but perhaps they may be regarded as indelicate. During last Summer two distinguished gentlemen of the same name occupied much of the public attention. One was said to have committed murder, and the other to have procured the passage of this law. One was hanged for his crime, the other, for his efforts, taken to the Executive Cabinet. One destroyed the life of an individual, the other contributed his efforts to the passage of this law, which must consign hundreds, perhaps thousands, to premature graves. I, sir, cannot speak for others; but for myself I would rather meet my final Judge with the guilt of him who has gone to his final account than of him who sits in yonder Cabinet.

I will ask the attention of the committee to another, a further expression, intended to add weight to the declaration already noticed.

The President says: "You, gentlemen, and the country, may be assured, that to the utmost of my ability, and to the extent of the power vested in me, I shall at all times, and in all places, take care that the laws be faithfully executed."

Now, I have told what the effects of the law will be. I have pointed out the course which I think our northern people will take in regard to it. Let the President hurl his taunts at the freemen of the North. Let him speak of the power vested in him; let him use the bayonet, the sword, the cannon; let him make himself another Haynau; let him drench our land of freedom in blood; but he will *never* make us obey that law.—The first cannon that opens its sound upon northern freemen tells the death-knell of this Republic! I say what before God and man I feel—that the moment your Army or Navy confronts the freemen of the North, that moment will bring this Republic to its eternal sleep. I make these remarks not by the way of menace. I do not merely say that I am speaking my personal intentions in that respect. I state what every enlightened statesman who has read the history of our race, must feel and admit. A free, enlightened, and independent people will never be compelled by the bayonet, or cannon, or the sword, to aid in carrying into effect this fugitive law.

It is due to our southern friends, who from the time of the passing of this law, have perhaps expected that the President, in the event of disinclination to obey it, would send his troops, his minions to enforce it; it is due to them, I repeat, that they should understand that the intelligence and firmness of the freemen of the North cannot be coerced into compliance with its injunctions, and there is no power on earth that can compel them to it.

I am told, in an undertone, *that* power will not be exerted. I hope and trust it will not. If the President be a lover of our republican institutions; if he desires to sustain this Government; if he be a friend of this Union, he will never attempt to enforce this law, or to carry out the menaces contained in that passage. These menaces are unworthy of the President; indeed, I do not impute them to him so much as to the counsel by which he is guided. We know that, on the 7th of March, a programme of these measures was put forth at the other end of the Capitol, and debated there for months; but this fugitive bill, when presented to this House, was passed under the previous question. No discussion of its provisions was allowed. The feelings of the North were not expressed nor represented. Our lips were hermetically sealed, in order that it might pass and assume the form of law. But, sir, it can never receive the spirit or force of law. The power of public sentiment is opposed to it, and it will remain a dead letter upon your statute book.

I will now refer to that part of the passage in which the President says, "I believed those measures," refering to this bill, "to have been necessary, and required by the circumstances and condition of the country."

I rejoice, Mr. Chairman, that he has boldly avowed this fact. The whole North believed that he was in heart and conscience opposed to this bill. Every whig press in the North said plainly that the President did not favor this bill, but that he was coerced—that he signed it by compulsion. It was the whig doctrine concerning the veto that compelled him to sign it. The President's views on the question are now before the country, and he avows his position manfully. He places himself upon this law; and here I wish to say to the House, that from this time we know where the President is. *He is in favor of this law*; he not only places himself there, but his administration and his party must stand or fall by this law. I rejoice at it! They must sink or swim, live or die, stand or fall with this enactment. We now know where to find the supporters of slavery and the advocates of freedom. Every man throughout the whole country, at the North and South, may now take his position, knowingly, with a full knowledge of the character of the party with whom he acts. Those that support this law must consent to obey it and enforce it, to the letter. He who will sustain this law must be willing to pursue the flying bondman as he hasteas to a land of freedom.

There is no lingering doubt, no difficulty, no obscurity, resting on that party who supports this Administration. All the whigs throughout the country, (and I speak with some degree of feeling, for I once had the pleasure of acting with them, when we had principles; then we avowed and acted upon the doctrines I have stated to-day,) all the whigs throughout the country feel that their unity is gone; the party has departed from its doctrines and principles, and has descended, step by step, from its position of 1844, until it has literally become a slave-catching party.

The President informs us that these measures "were adopted in a spirit of conciliation, and for the purpose of conciliation."—"I believe," says he, "that a great majority of our fellow-citizens sympathize in that spirit and that purpose, and in the main approve it." Sir, where does the President find this evidence in the popular mind? Does he draw his conclusions from the result of the electicns in Deleware, New Jersey, or Ohio? Does he find consolation in the election of Michigan or Wisconsin? Or in Massachusetts? Does he not read the doom of this measure from their results? Does he not read the handwriting upon the wall? Or, does he not see the true indications of the public mind' in the popular meetings, the resolutions and expressions of popular indignation now manifesting itself throughout the entire North? Does the denunciation of distinguished leaders of that party give the President encouragement to believe that this law can be maintained?

A distinguished judge in northern Ohio, a leader of the whig party, does not hesitate to say that he will issue a habeas corpus, and will release any slave brought before him under this law. Such is the case in almost all portions of the Northern States. Public sentiment is loud in condemnation of this law; opposition to it is increasing and extending and rolling forward, and no power can stop it until this law be stricken from the statute book. Who is the President, that he should threaten and menace the people with his power? Why, sir, he is merely entrusted with the execution of the public will. He is the creature of their power, dependent upon the popular breath. Sir, they will laugh to scorn his impotent threats.

The President says, near the conclusion of his message, "I cannot doubt that the American people, bound together by kindred blood and common traditions, still cherish a paramount regard for the Union of their fathers; and that they are ready to rebuke any attempt to violate its integrity, to disturb the compromises on which it is based, or to resist the laws which have been enacted under its authority."

A noble sentiment, to which I respond from the deepest feelings of my heart. The Union of our fathers! there is something solemn in it. Look at the thirteen old States. How different was that Union from the present? I revere the Union of our fathers; there is a pleasing solemnity in the recollections of everything that pertains to that Union; but where is it now? How have their sons abandoned it?

Commercial benefits first induced us to abandon the Union of our fathers and annex Louisiana—to associate with a foreign people. Then we again abandoned that Union, and took Florida to our embrace. Then, to extend and perpetuate slavery, we abandoned that Union and brought in slaveholding Texas, assuming her war and carrying devastation, rapine, and bloodshed to the heart of Mexico, in order to extend slavery. And to cap the climax, you have passed this fugitive law, and made the citizens of Ohio and of all the free States the catchpoles to Texas slavehunters. Well, sir, I do not say that Northern men have lost all love and regard for the Union. But one thing is certain, that they do not feel that reverence for it which once was so prevalent among us. They feel, sir, less attachment to it than formerly. They now speak of dissolution without hesitation. And if the Union be exerted for their degradation, by subjecting them to the provisions of this fugitive law, they would greatly prefer to see it dissolved. On this subject I feel no compunctions. More than eight years since, with twenty other members of this body, I addressed the people of the free States, foretelling this state of things:

"We hesitate not to say that *annexation* effected by any act or proceeding of the Federal Government, or any of its departments, *would be identical with disolution.* It would be a violation of our national compact, its objects and designs, and the great elementary principles, which entered into its formation, of a character so deep and fundamental, and would be an attempt to eternise an institution and a power so unjust in themselves, so injurious to the interests and abhorrent to the feeling of the people of the free States as, in our opinion, not only inevitably to *result* in a dissolution of the Union, but *fully to justify it.* And we not only assert that the people of the free States ought not to submit to it, but we say with confidence, *they will not submit to it.*"

These were the sentiments of one of the ablest statesmen of this nation. They are the sentiments of the "old man eloquent," and of many distinguished whigs of that day. And, sir, we know that the prediction has been in part fulfilled.

Sir, the spirit of the Pilgrim Fathers, that was manifested at Bunker's Hill, at Saratoga, and at Yorktown, still exists in the North. This same spirit that resisted the stamp act will resist your fugitive slave bill. The spirit which threw the tea into Boston harbor will set your infamous law at defiance. The spirit which overthrew the power of the British Crown will submit to no force that shall attempt to constrain them to comply with the odious provisions of this enactment.

CHOICE OF A PROFESSION.

Parents and friends too often forget, that, in determining the future pursuits of the young under their care, it is not enough that a profession be respectable or lucrative, or one in which the youth may be expected to succeed, by means of family influence; in addition to these circumstances, they ought to take into account the talents, the disposition, the natural bent of mind of the individual concerned; for if this most important item be omitted in their calculations, the probability is, that if he have any individuality of character, they will seriously mar his happiness, while endeavoring to the utmost of their power to promote it.—*Curtis.*

☞ Many readers judge of the power of a book by the shock it gives their feelings—as some savage tribes betermine the power of muskets by their recoil; that being considered best which fairly prostrates the purchaser.

STANZAS FOR THE TIMES—1850.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The evil days have come: the poor
Are made a prey;
Bar up the hospitable door,
Put out the fire-lights, point no more
The wanderer's way.

For Pity now is crime: the chain
Which binds our States
Is melted at the hearth in twain,
Is rusted by her tears' soft rain:
Close up her gates.

Our Union, like a glacier stirred
By voice below,
Or bell of kine, or wing of bird,
A beggar's crust or kindly word,
May overthrow.

Poor whispering tremblers!—yet we boast
Our blood and name:
Bursting its century-bolted frost,
Each gray cairn on the Northman's coast
Cries out for shame!

Oh, for the open firmament—
The prairie free,
The desert hill-sides, cavern-rent
The Pawnee's lodge, the Arab's tent,
The Bushman's tree!

Than web of Persian loom most rare,
Or soft divan,
Better the rough rock, bleak and bare,
Or hollow tree, which man may share
With suffering man.

I hear a voice: "Thus saith the Law,
Let love be dumb;
Clasping her liberal hands, in awe,
Let sweet lipped Charity withdraw
From hearth and home"

I hear another voice: "The poor
Are thine to feed;
Turn not the outcast from thy door,
Nor give to bonds and wrong once more
Whom God hath freed."

Dear Lord! between that law and Thee
No choice remains;
Yet not untrue to man's decree,
Though spurning its reward, is he
Who bears its pains.

Not mine Sedition's trumpet blast
And threatning word:
I read the lesson of the past,
The firm endurance wins at last
More than the sword.

Oh, clear-eyed faith, and patience, thou
So calm and strong,
Angels of God! be near to show
His glorious future shining through
Our night of wrong!

WASHINGTON ALLSTON.

BY N. ALLISON.

Washington Allston, the celebrated poet and painter, was born in South Carolina, in 1770.—While he was but six years of age his parents moved to Newport, Rhode Island, where his boyhood was passed. In discribing his early life, we cannot do him better justice than to give his history from the pen of Mr. Allston himself:

"I remember that I used to draw before I left Carolina, and that my favorite amusement was making little landscapes about the roots of an old tree in the country. The only particulars of these, which I can now call to mind, were a cottage built of sticks, shaded by little trees. Another employment was that of converting the forked stalks of the wild fern into little men and women, by winding about them different colored yarn. These were sometimes presented with pitchers made of the pomegranate flower. Such childish fancies were the starws by which, perhaps, an observer might then have guessed which way the current was sitting for after-life.

"My chief pleasure was soon found in drawing from prints of figures, landscapes, and animals. But I soon began to make pictures of my own. The earliest compositions that I remember, were the Storming of Count Rodericks Castle, and the siege of Toulon, from a poor romance of that day. To these succeeded many others which have passed into oblivion.

"Though I never had any regular instructor in the art, I had much incidental instruction, which I have always through life been glad to receive from every one in advance of myself.—There is no such thing as a self-taught artist, in the ignorant acceptation of the term; for the greatest genius that ever lived must be indebted to others, if not by direct teaching, yet indirectly through their works.

"I had, in my school-days, some of this latter kind of instruction, from a very worthy and amiable man, a Mr. King, of Newport, who made quadrants and compasses, and occasionally painted portraits. I used at first to make frequent excuses for visiting his shop, that I might look at his pictures, but finding that he always received me kindly, I went at last without any excuse, or rather with the avowed purpose of making him a visit.

"Sometimes I would take with me a drawing, and was sure to get a word of encouragement. It was a pleasant thing to me, some twenty years after this, to remind the old man of these little kindnesses.

"My leisure hours at college were chiefly devoted to the pencil, in composing figures and landscapes. I do not remember that I prefered one to the other; my only guide to the choice was the inclination of the moment."

At the age of twenty-two his love of painting, and enthusiasm for this employment, became so great, that he determined to visit the shrines of art in the old world. Accordingly he set sail for Europe, and arrived in London about the middle of June, 1801. Here he became a student at the Royal Academy.—West was then in the zenith of his fame, and he kindly and warmly welcomed his fellow-countryman. Here is Allston's tribute to him:

"Mr. West received me with the greatest kindness. I shall not forget his his benevolent smile when he took me by the hand; it is still fresh in my memory, and linked with one of a like kind which accompanied the last shake of the hand, when I took a final leave of him in 1818. His gallery was open to me at all times, and his advice always readily and kindly given. He was a man overflowing with the milk of human kindness."

In 1804 Allston visited Paris, where he remained a few months. While there he painted a few compositions of his own, and made a copy from Rubens. Next he turned his face toward the sunny south, and passed nearly four years in Italy, remaining most of this time at Rome. In that wonderous city, where art and history have clustured their treasures, his existence was like a blissful dream. The climate, the association, the arts, the ruins, and everything around him seemed perfectly adapted to his intellectual wants.

Here he met Coleridge, and happily passed the hours amid those ruins and olive groves, as the wisdom and noble sympathy of two such beings mingled unison while sharing each other's society. Speaking of the distinguished person, he says:

"To no other man whom I have known, do I owe so much intellectuality as to Mr. Coleridge, who has honored me with his friendship for more than twenty-five years. He used to call Rome the *Silent City*; but I never could think of it as such while with him; for, meet him when or where I would, the fountain of his mind was never dry. Like the far-reaching aqueducts that once supplied this mistress of the world, its living streams seemed specially to flow for every classic ruin over which we wandered.

"When I recall some of our walks under the pines of the Villa Borghese, I am almost tempted to dream that I had once listened to Plato in the groves of the Academy. It was there he taught me this golden rule: 'Never to judge of any work of art by its defects:' a rule as wise as it is benevolent, and one that, while it has spared me much pain, has widened my sphere of pleasure."

In personal appearance, Allston was remarkable. His figure was slight, and his action significant of spiritual grace. His hair was long, and hung carelessly about his neck. His face was small, and showed a kind of nervous ruggedness—and his eyes were large and lustrous. His appearance was such, that the first sight of him made the beholder feel that he was a remarkable man. Even when passing along the street, there was an abstractive, unearthly air about him, that often made the careless stop to look at him: yet there probably never was so gifted a man more free from all consciousness of superiority.

His mind was not fixed upon reputation, but upon an exalted standard of excellence, toward which he earnesly pressed. No one who ever knew him can forgot the grace of his social character; the simple hospitality with which he welcomed the visitor; his sweet encouragement to the young: and his ardent sympathy for every form of beauty and truth. Add to all this, a beautiful self-respect and child-like frankness, and nothing is wanting to win the hearts of all.

Allston's first wife was a sister of the late Dr. Channing. After her decease he was married to a sister of Dana, the poet, with whom he lived till his death, which took place in 1843. His life was one of earnest communion with the true and the beautiful; and his conversation was often tinged with the colorings of the spiritual world.

His language was never more clear, significant, and spiritual than on the night of his death. This event was very unexpected. He had painted all day, and with usual cheerfulness spent the evening in conversation. At a late hour he complained of a pain in his breast, to which he had been occasionally subjected.—His wife left the room to bring some remedy, which had relieved him on former occasions.—when she returned, he was leaning back in his chair apparently in a doze. She touched his shoulder; his eyes opened with a calm sweet expression, and closed again. He sighed gently and ceased to breathe.

Thus was softly loosened the tie that bound that gifted and pure spirit to mortal life. He passed away at the age of sixty-four years, in the full activity and consciousness of his powers, without any struggle or decay. The memory of such a man is worthy of being enshrined in the hearts of his countrymen.

PROSE EPIGRAMS.

Morality, without religion, is only a kind of dead-reckoning—an endeavor to find our place on a cloudy sea by measuring the distance we have run, but without any observation of the heavenly bodies.

Men of genius are often dull and inert in society; as the blazing meteor, when it descends to earth, is only a stone.

The natural alone is permanent. Fantastic idols may be worshipped for a while; but at length they are overturned by the continual silent progress of truth, as the grim statutes of Cohan have been pushed from their pedestals by the growth of forest-trees, whose seeds were sown by the wind in the ruined walls.

The every-day cares and duties, which men call drudgery, are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration, and its hands a regular motion; and when they cease to hang upon the wheels, the pendulum no longer swings, the hands no longer move, the clock stands still.

The best snuff in the world is a snuff at the morning air.

TRANSMISSION OF SOUND; AND ELECTRICITY.

During a lecture delivered by Dr. Faraday at the Royal Institution, two remarkable experiments were exhibited with a view to show peculiarities in transmission of Electricity. A long strip of wood was suspended from the ceiling of the lecture room, touching a wooden box at one end. A tuning fork was struck and applied to the other extremity of the connected strip of wood, when presently a loud musical note issued from the box, though the sound of the fork at the other end was inaudible.—The next experiment was still more curious.—A rod connected with a pianoforte in a room beneath came through the floor of the lecture room and on the top of the rod Dr. Faraday applied a guitar to act as a sounding board.—When the piano was played, the sound seemed to issue from the guitar as loudly as if the instrument were in the room, but the instant the connection was broken between the rod and the guitar, no note could be heard. Another analogy between vibrations producing sound and electricity in the sensation, resembling that of an electric shock, communicated on touching a vibrating bar of metal or a vibrating string.—The school trick, of fixing a wet string or piece of tape round the waist, and then pulling it through the fingers, were practiced by Dr. Faraday on his assistant, for the purpose of showing how readily the sensation of an electric shock may be imitated by vibrations.—*Scientific American.*

A CHAPTER ON SLEEP.

BY DR. ROBERT MACNISH, GLASGOW.

Every animal passes some portion of its time in sleep. This is a rule to which there is no exception; although the kind of slumber and the degree of profoundness in which it exists in the different classes are extremely various. Some physiologists lay it down as a general rule, that the larger the brain of an animal the greater is the necessity for a considerable proportion of sleep. This, however, I suspect is not borne out by facts. Man for instance, and some birds, such as the sparrow, have the largest brains in proportion to their size, and yet it is probable that they do not sleep so much as some other animals with much smaller brains. The serpent tribe, unless when stimulated by hunger, (in which case they will remain awake for days at a time waiting for their prey,) sleep much more than men or birds, and yet their brains are proportionally greatly inferior in size: the boa, after dining on a stag or goat, will continue in a profound sleep for several days. Fishes,* indeed, whose brains are small, require little sleep; but the same remark applies to birds, which have large brains, and whose slumber is neither profound nor of long continuance. The assertion, therefore, that the quantum of sleep has any reference to the size of the brain may be safely looked upon as unfounded. That it has any reference to the quality of the brain is more likely, for we find that carnivorous animals sleep more than such as are herbiverous;—and it is probable that the texture as well as form of the brains of these two classes is materially different.

Some animals, such as the hare, sleep with their eyes open; and I have known several instances in the human subject. But the organ is dead to the ordinary stimulous of light, and sees no more than if completely shut.

During complete sleep no sensation whatever is experienced by the individual; he neither feels pain, hunger, thirst, nor the ordinary desires of nature. He may be awakened to a sense of such feelings, but during a perfect repose he has no consciousness whatever of their existence—if they can indeed be said to exist where they are not felt. For the same reason, we may touch him without his feeling it; neither is he sensible to sounds, to light, or to odors. When, however, the slumber is not very profound, he may hear music or conversation, and have a sense of pain, hunger and thirst; and although not awakened by such circumstances, may recollect them afterwards. These impressions, caught by the senses often give rise the to most extraordinary mental combinations, and form the groundwork of the most elaborate dreams.

I am of opinion that we rarely pass the whole of any one night in a state of perfect slumber. My reason for this supposition is, that we very seldom remain during the whole of that period in the position in which we fall asleep. This change of posture must have been occasioned by some emotion, however obscure, affecting the mind, and through it the organs of volition, whereas in complete sleep we experience no emotion whatever.

The position usually assumed in sleep has been mentioned; but sleep may ensue in any posture of the body; persons fall asleep on horseback, and continue riding in this state for a long time without being awakened.—Horses sometimes sleep for hours in the standing posture; and the circumstance of somnambulism shows that the same thing may occur in the human race.

* As a proof that fishes sleep, Aristotle, who seems to have paid more attention to their habits than any modern author, states, that while in this condition they remain motionless, with the exception of a gentle movement of the tail—that they may then be readily taken by the hand, and that, if suddenly touched, they instantly start.

GIVE YOUR CHILD A NEWSPAPER.

A child beginning to read becomes delighted with a newspaper, because he reads of names and things which are very familiar, and he will make progress accordingly. A newspaper in one year is worth a quarter's schooling to a child, and every father must consider that substantial information is connected with advancement. The mother of a family, being one of its heads, and having a more immediate charge of children, should herself be instructed. A mind occupied, becomes fortified against the ills of life, and is braced for any emergency. Children amused by reading or study, are of course, considerate, and more easily governed. How many thoughtless young men have spent their earnings in a tavern or grog shop, who ought to have been reading? How many parents who never spent twenty dollars for books for their families would have given thousands to reclaim a son or daughter who had ignorantly and thoughtlessly fallen into temptation!

☞ Ignorance is a blank sheet, on which we may write; but error is a scribbled one, on which we must first erase.

Austin Willey

For the Portland Inquirer.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM MASSACHUSETTS.

MR. WILLEY:—As you are laboring (as you say) to advance the welfare of all mankind, and send abroad your own and others thoughts, I beg leave to call attention to the approaching FAIR in London, at which all the world is to be present, by their representatives, if not in person. It will doubtless be expected that each nation shall present a fair representation of its character and standing among other nations. I believe a proposition has been made, that Congress employ one or our armed vessels from the navy to carry whatever may be sent to the Fair from this country. There can be no question but there can be furnished as great curiosities from this country as from any other on earth. Without attempting to name all that we could furnish, I beg leave to name a few that could hardly fail of attracting *universal* attention; as to admiration and commendation, let the event speak for itself. Let there be sent a copy of our fathers' Declaration of Independence, with a slaveholder to read it in the presence of the assembled multitudes. But this without any personal allusions of course. Then let there be put up a copy of our *national Constitution*, with attention especially directed to its *Preamble*, and let this be read by some southern man (say Senator Foote, if you please), and if it is not seen readily what the objects were for which this Constitution was ordained and adopted," let him explain, or read the Preamble again. As an illustration of what is meant by "all men being born free and equal," by "inalienable rights," and by "a Republican form of government," let it be distinctly announced that we have so far accomplished these grand and beneficent objects, that now one sixth part of our entire population is *slaves*, and vigorous efforts are being made to increase this proportion.

And that all the nations may see how truly *patriotic and christian* we are, let there be sent a coffle-gang of slaves, of *men, women, and children*, with their drivers with horses, whips, guns, and dogs; and for want of other conveniences for comfortable and safe keeping, there can be a pen built, without floor or partitions, where all shall be promiscuously huddled together, without distinction of age or sex. At the time appointed, let there be a public auction of those slaves, where they shall go to the highest bidder, "in lots or singly, to suit purchasers." And let there be present some eminent Statesman, to declare that this is not only constitutional, but that it is the "corner-stone" of our republican institutions," and let some Doctor of Divinity from the South, attended by as many "*servants*" as he chooses, stand by and declare that "slavery is a *Bible institution*," well authenticated and defended. Let him preach what he calls the gospel to those slaves who have just been sold into hopeless bondage, and are soon to be separated at a returnless distance.

And what is that gospel? Is it "deliverance to the captive," or is it not rather "servants, he obedient to your masters in all things."

But if, in spite of all these instructions, and of all the circumstances which should make them "contented and happy," there should be seen discontent and attempts to escape, and tho spectators should ask how we manage in such cases, let our Secretary of State, known of all as being a Massachusetts *man*, and residing almost within sight of Plymouth rock, stand up and read the *Fugitive Slave Law*; and when he has done, let a northern President, or candidate for the Presidency, read "the compromises of the Constitution," and announce that the continuance of our *Union* depends upon the faithful execution of this law.

The D. D., or, in his absence, a Theological Professor, will be ready to give the very important information that many eminent men in the Free States are laboring to convince the common people, that "there is no higher law" than this same Fugitive Slave Law, and that it is a christian duty to yield obedience to it. But will not those who are less enlightened than these teachers suppose that these men are bringing themselves into a world-wide contempt by such a course? Most assuredly! No other conclusion is possible.

The exhibition of these things will create as large a measure of wonder as will fairly belong to suy one nation. If other things of this class are wanted to complete the lading of the *man of war*, there is an abundance of them. Take a speech delivered in the United States Senate last March by Mr. Webster, a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the great Union meeting in Faneuil Hall, and a few copies of Thanksgiving sermons recently preached.

Reader, how must such things look abroad? They are *here*,—they are *ours*—shall we exhibit them, and then boast of our national greatness and our free institutions? But I leave the application to you.

——s ——s.

[For the Portland Inquirer.]

The following Resolves were passed by the Palmyra and Newport Quarterly Conference, at its late session held with the Baptist Church at Etna, Dec. 21, and 22, 1850.

Resolved, That the law of man should be founded upon the laws of God.

Resolved, That the law of the "Fugitive Slave Law" passed by Congress, is in open violation of the laws of God — that it imposes hurdens upon us that are unequal, unjust and arbitrary; and that it can never be considered as a righteous law as it is in direct violation of God's Fugitive slave Law, as it is found in Deuteronomy, chap 23d, 15, 16 verses, which is: "Thou shall not deliver up to his master the servant which escaped from his master unto thee. He shall dwell with thee, even among you in that place which he shall chose, in one of the gates where it liketh him best; thou shalt not oppress him."

Resolved, That in order to carry out the principles set forth in the declaration of Independence, "That all men were born free and equal" — we ought to resist the slave when he has escaped among us, in his endeavors for liberty.

Resolved, That we are a law abiding community; but the laws which we obey must be consistent with the laws of God.

Resolved, That it is our duty to pray for those wicked rulers who make such unrighteous laws.

D. STEWART, *Chairman*.

P. WHITING, *Clerk*.

SLAVERY IN UTAH.—We take the following from a letter in the Newburyport Herald, dated St. Louis, Oct. 7.

Many here deny that it requires an act of Congress to carry slavery into the territories. It exists now in Utah, and is recognized by the people of Salt Lake—This I learn from a well informed man, who has spent nearly a year among them. He was a trader and inventions as regards which the owner of seven blacks contracted with him for a supply of clothing for his hands. He also told me that Brigham Young was in the habit of bitterly denouncing the abolitionists.

This is the Territory, around which DANIEL WEBSTER drew his "lines of latitude," signalising his apostacy to freedom by declaring that "he would not re-enact the will of God" by legislating against the extension of slavery.

A man may learn that in two minutes which may be valuable to him all his life.

Portland Inquirer.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1851.

DEMANDS OF FREEMEN.

We demand, first and foremost, the instant repeal of the Fugitive Slave Bill.

We demand the Abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia.

We demand the exercise by Congress, in all Territories, of its time honored power to prohibit slavery.

We demand of Congress to refuse to receive into the Union, any new Slave State.

We demand the Abolition of the domestic slave trade, so far as it can be constitutionally effected; but positively cut the high seas under the National Flag.

And, generally, we demand from the Federal Government the exercise of all its constitutional power to relieve itself from the responsibility for Slavery.

And yet one thing further must be done.—The Slave Power must be overturned; so that the Federal Government may be put openly, actively, and perpetually on the side of Freedom.

SLAVE CATCHING MEETING IN BATH.

The friends of freedom will wish to understand the movements of the slave power, we therefore give a brief statement of the main positions taken at Bath. First the letters.

Mr. Evans regrets he cannot be there; — is quite alarmed;—thinks it "tull time the friends of the Union should begin to exert themselves" if they would preserve it; — "dangerous and alarming doctrines are abroad, which are hurrying us to a fatal destiny;"—till lately their "propagators have had the field all to themselves, but it must be so no longer;" the fugitive law "is in all respects constitutional, and should be as fully respected and executed as any other law; let us devote ourselves to allay the agitation of the country," and uphold its "noble Institutions." (Slavery?)

It will be difficult for Mr. Evans to obtain much moral consideration, who is said to have failed of a place in Gen. Taylor's Cabinet on account of his habits. It is not apparent what he can do against the cause of freedom more than he has done, both fair and foul — professing regard for it when expedient, well nigh to the crucifixion of those who would not trust him, and basely slandering them when necessary. We are willing he should try.—He will never make a good slave-catcher however he may aspire to and "respect" the business. We would like to see him after a smart one night constitutionally!

Gen. Cass thinks "this a perilous crisis"— the "danger is imminent" — strange doctrines are abroad, viz., that there is a "higher law than the constitution, of whose extent and obligation every man is to judge for himself. (A false doctrine, a higher law than the *slave law* to ask the Judge how the constitutionality of a law is to be tested. How are you to make up a case to try it till somebody violates it? We ask such a question of a Judge of the Supreme Court with deference, but with surprise. Judge Shepley was more careful of his statements. We hope such positions are not taken on the bench.

Now what is the sum of all this? What has it to do with the real questions at issue? As near nothing as well can be. Dissolution of the Union is *no part* of the question. The opponents of slavery are as firmly attached to it as any other citizens. But they believe if it is to exist long it must cease to be perverted into an instrument of oppression. Here are the questions relating to the fugitive law:

1. Is it constitutional?

2. Ought it to be repealed; either from its unconstitutionality or inexpediency?

3. Can it be actively obeyed without sin against God?

We beg leave to doubt whether the writers of these letters ever spent one hour in their lives in close examination of these questions, and they have not touched upon them in their letters, except in one or two cases, even by *assertion*—much less by any show of *argument*. The cause of freedom cannot be set aside in this way.

POLITICAL CORRUPTION.

Certain late developments in New Hampshire illustrate very well the shameless tyranny to which the people submit under party names. Each State has its little clan of overseers who play "Nicholas" over presses and ballot-boxes, but they rarely get so fully exposed as in the following case:

Rev. John Atwood, of New Boston, was nominated for Governor by the democratic party. He was afterwards addressed by letter to learn his views on the extension of slavery, and the fugitive law. After several weeks he answered (Nov. 20) in a carefully written and excellent letter. In the language of the legislature of 1849, he is "*firmly* and *unalterably* opposed to the further extension of slavery over any portion of the American soil now free." Respecting the fugitive law, he says—

"Inasmuch as the present law denies this right (trial by jury) to all persons *claimed* as 'fugitives from service,' and also imposes obligations and services upon the people of the free States, which in my judgment, neither the Constitution, nor Conscience requires at their hands. I cannot give the measure my support. Regarding many of its provisions as unprecedented, oppressive, and liable to be perverted to the cunishvement of free citizens, I shall, whatever station I may occupy, favor all proper, peaceful and constitutional measures for its repeal or essential modification."

About Dec. 1, this letter was placed in the hands of the editor of the Manchester Democrat, and Dec. 6 Mr. Atwood wrote to him to forward it to Col. White, another signer, which he soon over. A copy was taken, the original returned. On the 13th the Concord clique got news of the correspondence, despatched a messenger to N. Boston—some 20 miles, we think —who returned, and the *same night* made the *trip again* to uptify Mr. Atwood to meet the overseers next day at Manchester. There, after a long and severely disciplinary process under Frank Pierce and others, he was induced to destroy the letter, not knowing it had been copied.

But on the 18th the original letter appeared in the Meredith Democrat, and Independent Democrat. Forthwith another tool starts again for N. Boston, and the *same night* Mr. Atwood arrived in Concord. There, after undergoing a process similar to an alledged Masonic induction, he was forced to *sign another letter, wrsten for him, repudiating his former letter* as not containing his opinions—to be about it as being "unfinished," and surreptiously obtained, and avowing his firm adherence to all the "peace measures!!

The next day the letter appeared in the Patriot. Mr. Atwood went directly to Manchester and there declared, in presence of many, that his first letter contained his true sentiments, but he, in an evil, excited hour, had been "beset and importuned" to sign another, *shown to be of another's hand writing*, disowning his true sentiments, which he deeply regretted.

What a picture is here of despicable arts, tricks, sham pretensions, petty tyranny, and duplicity! And yet there is nothing very strange about it except the *exposure*. The rest of it is common enough. We gather these facts from the Concord and Manchester Democrats.

REMOVE NOT THE OLD LANDMARK.

THE HIGHER LAW.

We make a few extracts now from writers of the highest authority, showing the *right* and *duty* of *disobedience* to law, when it requires what is morally wrong. We shall add more next week.

JOHN CALVIN.

"In the obedience which we have shown to he due to the authority of governors, it is always necessary to make one exception, and that is entitled to our first attention,—that it do not seduce us from our obedience to Him to whose will the desires of all kings ought to be subject, to whose decrees all their commands ought to yield, to whose majesty their sceptors ought to submit. And, indeed, how preposterous it would be for us, with a view to satisfy men, to incur the displeasure of Him on whose account we yield obedience to men! The Lord, therefore, is the King of kings; who, when he hath opened his sacred mouth, is to be heard alone, above all, for all, and before all; in the next place, we are subject to those men who preside over us; but no otherwise than in Him. If they command anything against Him, it ought not to have the least attention; nor, in this respect, ought we to pay any regard to all that dignity attached to magistrates; to which no injury is done when it is subjected to the unrivaled and supreme power of God. On this principle Daniel denied he had committed any crime against the king in disobeying his impious decree (Dan. 6: 22); because the king had exceeded the limits of his duty, and had not only done an injury to men, but, by raising his arm against God, had degraded his own authority. On the other hand, the Israelites are condemned for having been too submissive to the impious edict of their king. And that our hearts may not fail us, Paul stimulates us with another consideration — that Christ has redeemed us at the immense price of his own blood, whence it follows that we may not be submissive to the corrupt desires of men, much less be slaves to their impiety." (Institutes of Religion, B. iv, chap. 20, sec. 32.)

PROF. STUART.

"I would add only, that the extension of the principles enjoined by Rom. 13, so as to make them imply implicit subjection to the magistrate in cases of moral turpitude, where he enjoins what God has plainly forbidden, would be a plain violation of the true principles of Christianity, which demand of us that we obey God rather than men." The apostle himself was a most eminent example of exception to such a sweeping general principle of civil obedience. It is only when obedience is within the bounds of *moral* prescription, that obedience is a duty.

ALBERT BARNES.

"There *were* cases where it was right to *resist* the laws. This the Christian religion clearly taught; and in cases of this kind, it was indispensable for Christians to take a stand. Wheu the laws interfered with the rights of conscience; when they commanded the worship of idols, or any moral wrong, then it was their duty to refuse submission. . . . . It *could not be*, and *never was* a question, whether they should obey a magistrate when he commanded a thing that was plainly contrary to the law of God."

DR. DWIGHT.

"Subjects are bound to obey magistrates, when acting agreeably to the laws, in all cases not contrary to the will of God, as unfolded in the Scriptures. This I take to be the true import of the directions given by St. Peter and St. Paul. These Apostles cannot, I think, be rationally supposed to enjoin upon subjects obedience to those commands of a ruler which contravene the laws of the land; or which lie beyond the limits of his lawful authority. . . . Much less can they be supposed to enjoin obedience to those commands of a ruler which are opposed to the Law of God. Whether we should *obey God rather than men* can never be seriously made a question, in common sense, any more than of Piety." (Theology, Vol. 3, Ser. cxiv.)

DR. WILLIAMS.

"It [Christian Patience] does not authorize escape or peace, as purchased by collusion with godless errors, or by submission to any impious laws of a human magistracy; neither Christian patience owes to God, rather than man, and shows itself, not by obeying the wrong law, and thus evading the penalty, but by breaking the law, to obey God, and thus braving, for man's sake, the penalty of confiscation, incarceration, and death, if exile cannot release from it. (P. 145.)

DR. EDWARDS.

"Peter says, in his first epistle, 'Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man, for the Lord's sake; whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him.' It ought to have been translated, 'Submit yourselves to every *creature of man*,' for so it is in the original. So that the apostle here declares all civil rulers, whether supreme or subordinate, to be creatures of men. But if they he the creatures of men, surely men have a right to resist, or even to unmake and annihilate them, if they rule not according to the will of God and the good of the subject." * * * "The truth is, and the whole spirit of Scripture sustains it, that rulers are bound to rule in the fear of God, and for the good of the people; and if they do not, then in resisting them we are doing God service." (Works, vol. ii, pp. 244-5.)

JUDICIAL WRITERS.

To the preceding from theological writers we add the following from the highest legal authors, all affirming that *an immoral law is of no force, and never should be obeyed.*

Vattel and all writers on international law, declares that the *solemn sanctions of a treaty are void, if the provisions are opposed to natural justice.* Blackstone says, "If any human law shall allow or require us to commit crime, we are *bound to transgress that human law.*," — Fortescue says, "The law of nature, being coeval with mankind, and dictated by God himself, is of course *superior in obligation, to any other.* No human laws have any validity, if contrary to this."

Coke states, "That when an act of Parliament is against common right, *the common law will control it, and adjudge such act to be void.*"

Littleton says, "*It is generally laid down that acts of Parliament, contrary to nature, are void.*"

Noyes says, "*that the inferior must give place to the superior*, man's laws to God's laws. *If, therefore, any statute law be enacted contrary to them, it ought to be considered of no authority in the land.*"

Hobart says, "an act of Parliament may be void from its first creation, as an act against natural society; for the laws of nature are immutable; they are the laws of laws."

Judge McLean, in his report, says, "*Statutes against fundamental morality are void.*"

The above must be conclusive, and proves all the pious nonsense now so abundant against this great *fundamental truth* to be mere gas, except its impiety.

DISASTERS.—A great number of disasters have taken place on sea and lakes during the late storms, and we shall not be surprised if 1000 lives have been lost. Reports are yet imperfect.

The steamer Ohio, from Havana to New Orleans, barely escaped after severe injury.

The schr. Argus was wrecked off Plum Island, and a number of lives were lost.

☞ Congress is doing nothing and probably will not at present. The reduction of postage is very likely to fail. The country will rejoice when this Congress disappears.

☞ Mr. Webster, at the New York Dinner, advises people to be sober. That advice, in connection with the late sale of his wine, looks well. Only this, (to spoil the thing) the wine was pawned, and sold to pay up.

FOREIGN EXTRACTS.

However mortifying to our *amour patrie*, we shall continue to quote specimens of rebuke which are coming from different parts of the world, and also the sentiments of grief of the personal knowledge, we seldom seek for proof until *prima facie* evidence appears against it. Where is your proof?

Mr. Hamlin did not vote for the law; and he said the reason why he and others did not vote against it at its final passage was, it came up at a very unusual time and they were absent. Even our hunker Senator Bradbury, voted against it, so bad was it regarded by him.

Mr. H., said he did not agree with Mr. Crittenden. The law *did* violate the right of *habeas corpus*, and jury trial, and that in this vital respect he held it to be unconstitutional. It was also bad in other respects. He also said he would in no case vote for *any* fugitive law unless the security of northern citizens at the South could at the same time be secured.

These and other similar views were freely stated to us and others, and on such a subject and such an occasion we feel at liberty to repeat them. And so he was understood at Bath, for they never even *asked* his attendance! They knew better. We do not suppose he would have the law "resisted" by force, and we scarcely know of any one who does. Certainly we do not.

MR. HAMLIN AND THE COTTON MEETING.

The following note will show that Mr. Hamlin was not even *invited* to attend that meeting; and how it came to be announced that he was "*expected*," as part of the public notice, the Bath papers make no attempt to explain. Whether it was falsehood or forgery others can determine. Papers that repeated the disparaging statement will doubtless correct it. The correction has appeared in the Argus.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1850.

DEAR SIR.—In answer to the inquiry contained in your note of the 18th inst., received this morning, I will say that my name was used in connection with the Bath meeting without my knowledge—hence it was without authority.—I so informed Mr. Appleton who is here, and requested him to make that statement in the Argus, and he said he would do so. I presume you will see it in the Argus before this reaches you.

TWO MORE VICTIMS. BATH MEETING ILLUSTRATED.

TEXT. "Find out all the private marks of the "Niggers" in your vicinity and send me a description, and the devil be in it if I don't find owners for them."—*Letter from a Southerner to an Agent in Ohio.*

The man-hunters have had fine sport in Philadelphia, and Daniel Webster exults that the union is safe. His law works to a charm.

Adam Gibson was seized Saturday afternoon, at the corner of the street, by three villains on the charge of stealing chickens, and with pistols at his head was hurried off to the U. S. Marshal. A crowd collected, scuffles ensued and the warrant was called for, but could not be shown. This forced the kidnappers to reveal their business and claim Gibson as a fugitive slave from Maryland.

Ingraham, the slave Commissioner, was soon on the spot. Mr. Pierce moved to adjourn to procure witnesses, but the Commissioner refused—the case was "summary"—he would not wait one hour. Price, the kidnapper, alone swore to the identity of the man. Two men swore against it, and David Paul Brown showed the will by which Gibson *had been emancipated*! Still he was given up, placed under guard of 25 men and hurried off. Now for the result, and a forcible illustration of the most infamous law, sanctioned at Bath.

When he arrived the alleged owner *disowned him!* He was not his slave. Of course he was let go, and after travelling 45 miles without food, and escaping pursuers with great difficulty, he got back, and was received with rapturous joy by his friends. His wife did not know of his arrest till he was gone! So narrowly did a *freeman* escape.—It was not law, but "honor among thieves" alone that saved him.

Here was a fair illustration of that legislative villany which a free and christian people are called on to respect as law, and help execute!

ANOTHER SEIZURE.

In N. York, Henry Long was claimed by Dr. Smith of Va. and brought before Commissioner Hall. Mr. Weston appeared for the claimant, Messrs. White, Jay and Fessendeu for the defendant. A writ of habeas corpus came from the Supreme Court of N. Y.; and although Weston resisted, the Commissioner yielded to it; and the case was there left. It is not decided at our latest dates. John Jay Esq. declares the law unconstitutional and he intends to carry the case to final decision on that ground in the Circuit and Supreme Courts.

THE UNION SAFE.

At the New Englaud Festival in New York city, on Monday evening last, Mr. Webster made a speech, in the course of which he said:—

Gentlemeu, the day-spring from on high has visited us. There is no longer any danger of disunion of these United States. The time for that has gone by, NOT TO RETURN. And those who supposed they could sever us, whether by talk of secession or by metaphysics, [laughter] will find themselves mistaken. Let the mind of the sober American people remain sober. The surest course to satisfy those who meditate disunion is JUST LEAVE THEM TO THEMSELVES, AND SEE WHIAT THEY CAN MAKE OUT OF IT. [Laughter.]

What a pity that he had not announced this fact a little sooner, and saved the good people of Bath all their fuss! It is a little too bad for their apostate leader to tell them they are *green*, before they and others get over their perspiration. They should have started sooner.

It seems the farce has gone far enough, and the bugle sounds a retreat. Of course all will now be quiet, for nobody will care for the insults of one who has betrayed his country.

☞ A country subscriber suggests the desirableness of more agricultural matter in this paper, and such is our intention. The abhorrent slave measures of the last session of Congress have demanded an unusual degree of attention, so that we could not diversify our paper as we intended. We hope it will be otherwise before long.

UNION MEETING.

A meeting of the friends of the Union, and all who are opposed to the fugitive law was held in the City Hall last Saturday evening, and adjourned to meet next Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. See notice in another place.

☞ See that every man in the city is informed of this meeting, and let the Hall be filled. See if we are obliged to turn slave-catchers to save the Union.

An intelligent gentleman thus writes of the meeting at Bath:—

"A very small proportion of the old citizens were signers to the call for the meeting, and a larger proportion that did sign cared not a fig about it, and are *opposed* to the fugitive slave bill—as many as one not over 11 years of age signed it, and some foreigners who had not obtained a citizenship, and a very large proportion were persons I had no knowledge of."

An eastern correspondent writes:—

"A word about the Fugitive Slave Law. It appears to me that the Petitions to Congress on this subject are not just what they should be, at least those of them I have seen. I think they should ask for, first, a repeal of that law; and second, (if Congress will not repeal it) a peaceable dissolution of the Union, allowing to the South what territory they now have in the shape of Slave States, and no more. This, sir, would at once test the feelings and real wishes of Southern men, and in my opinion would do more to heal Mr. Clay's "five bleeding wounds" than all the opiates of all the Northern or Southern doctors (including Cass, Dickinson, and Webster) that have yet been prescribed for the perpetuity of the Union: which may our kind heavenly Father grant may never be sundered.

☞ Dr. Parsons of Windham, writes:

By the way I called to see Capt. Loring of Yarmouth, about that letter of Mr. Cummings, but he was absent and I did not see him.

The facts are these. At a county meeting at Yarmouth, Bro. Loring desired me to introduce him to Mr. Day, as he wished to request him to publish it. Mr. Day left before I had the opportunity to do so, and then Bro. Loring desired me to hand him (Mr. D.) a copy, which he (Bro. L.) furnished, *note and all*, and say that they wanted it published, and wanted 50 copies sent to Bro. L. for distribution.

I suppose, what has appeared in press since, that the whole was not in the original paper, but that Bro. L., made it simply to inform the editor to whom the committee did actually refer. That is all the "forging," and all that is "false" I suppose in the matter. I wish you would be so kind as to state these facts in the Inquirer, as Bro. Stackpole informes me that a rumor is current, that I appended the note and procured the publication surreptitiously. While I supposed at the time, that the committee themselves desired to have the affair made public."

We feared at the time that in the charges of "forgery" and "falsehood," there was far more of personal retaliation than charity or accuracy, and so it appears. But we hope the matter will end here.—ED.

GOOD EXAMPLE.

MR. WILLEY:—Enclosed I now send you two dollars, which I want you to send me the worth of in that Fugitive Slave Law tract that was published in New York. I have been laid up lame and sick, and have not been able to do a day's work since last year; but I think I can do some good by sending those Fugitive Slave Law tracts round among the people.

Respectfully yours,

WM. HODGDON.

We have delayed sending for these, in order to receive orders for more. We shall wait a little longer. That tract ought to be widely circulated. Unless otherwise directed, we shall take the liberty of sending to the care of Mr. J. B. Swanton, Bath.

RULE SETTLED.

But the rule which we observe in our profession is not to interfere with them [ministers] so long as they let politics alone, and when they take part in political affairs to treat them like other politicians.—*News.*

This is the same "rule" by which Jeremiah was "sawn asunder;" by which Paul was sacrificed by Pagan Rome for attacking political idolatry; by which Christ was crucified; Wickliff burnt; the Puritans imprisoned and banished. Nearly every martyr died because he meddled with "politics."

We presume the devil himself would be willing to "compromise" all outstanding difficulties respecting this world's affairs, if he can have the "politics" unmolested. Perhaps the above "rule" is to be understood as a suggestion to this effect, through an authorized negociator.

☞ The Bangor Courier says "the pulpit in Massachusetts has recently spoken with great power and emphasis" in support of the slave law—that is the meaning.

We do not know on what authority that paper says "the pulpit of Massachusetts," unless it wishes to make the most of a few hunkers, to induce the people to accept the office of bloodhounds so tamely as not to jar the whig party. But the charge against "the pulpit of Massachusetts is without foundation. It is not true of one in ten.

UNTRUE.—The efforts of the *Argus* to make an impression that the opponents of the black law in N. York threaten "bloodshed," is perversion. No such idea is in their State Call. They do express the fear, however, that if the law is not repealed or rendered a nullity things will come to that, and they are not alone in that opinion.

GREATLY EXCITED.—The *Argus* and *News* are very much disturbed because a meeting was called in the City, to consider the evil effects the fugitive law is likely to have on the Union. The notice was perfectly fair, as will be seen in another column; while it exposes the deception against us attempted in those quarters. Have we not as good right to call union meetings as any body, stating plainly that we are to oppose the fugitive law?

☞ The *News*, by warning people to keep away, shows that it is afraid of argument.

BLACKWOODS EDINBURG MAGAZINE for December is received and contains spirited articles on Varieties in English life, Ancient and Modern Eloquence, The Great Unknown, Modern State Trials, Popish partition of England.

This is one of the best British Periodicals, re-published by that enterprising firm, Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton street, New York.

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21904

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSTITUTION.

While so many are crying "Lo here, and Lo there," and are laboring to establisb the meaning of the Constitution by some real or imaginary *history of "intentions,"* we quote from the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in tbe case of *Prigg* vs. *Pennsylvania*, iu which all such folly is scouted, and true principles are stated by Judge Story.

"Such a doctrine would be novel and absurd. It would confuse and destroy all tbe tests of constitutional rights and authorities. Congress could never pass any law witbout an inquisition into the motives of every member; and even then they migbt be re-examinable. Besides, what possible means can there be of making such investigations? The motives of many of the members may be, nay must be, utterly unknown, and incapable of ascertainment by any judicial or otber inquiry; they may be mixed up in various manners and degrees; they may be opposite to, or wholly independent of each other. The constitution would thus depend upon processes utterly vague, and incomprehensible; and tbe written intent of the legislature upon its words and acts, the *lex scripta*, would be contradicted or obliterated by conjecture, and parol declarations, and fleeting reveries, and heated imaginations. No government on eartb could rest for a moment on such a foundation. It would be a constitution of sand, heaped up and dissolved by the flux and reflux of every tide of opinion. Every act of the legislature, (and for the same reason also every clause of the constitution), must therefore be judged of from its objects and intent, as tbey are embodied in its provisions." 2 *Story's Comm.*, 534.

Also he says,

The constitution was adopted by the people of the United States; and it was submitted to the whole, upon a just survey of its provisions, as they stood in the text itself.— * * * * Opposite interpretations, and different explanations of different provisions, may well be presumed to hnve been presented in diffcreut bodies, to remove local objections, or to win local favor. And thero can be no certainty, either that tbe different state conventions, in ratifying the constitution, gave the same uniform interpretation to its language, or that, even in a single state convention, the same reasoning prevailed, with a majority, mueh less with the whole, of the supporters of it. * * * It is not to be presumed that even in the convention which framed the constitution, from the causes above mentioned, and other causes, tbe clauses were always understood in the samc sense, or had precisely the same extent of operation. Every member necessarily judged for himself; and the judgment of no one could, or ought to be, conclusive upon tbat of others. * * * * Nothing hut the text itself waa adopted by the people. * * Is the sense of the constitution to be ascertained, not by its own text, hut by tho 'probable meaning,' to he gathered hy conjecture from acattered documents, from private papers, from tbe tahle-talk of some statesman, or the jealous exaggerations of others? Is the constitution of tbe United States to hc the only instrument, which is not to be interpreted by what is written, but by probahle guesses, aside from the text? Whnt would be said of interpreting a statute of a state legislature, by endeavoring to find out, from private sources, the objects aud opinions of every member; how every one thought; wbat he wished; how he interpreted it? Supposc different persons had different opiuions, whnt is to he done? Suppose different persons are not agreed as to the 'probable meaning' of the framers, or of the people, what interpretation is to he followed? These, and many questions of the same sort, might be asked. It is obvious, tbat there can be no aecurity to the people in any constitution of government, if they are not to judge of it by the fair meaning of the words of the text, but tbe words ure to be bent and broken by the 'prohahle meaning' of persons, whom they never knew, and whose opinions, and meana of informntion may be no better than their own? The people adopted the constitution, according to the words of the text in their reasonahle interpretatiou, and not according to the private interpretation of any particular men."

1 *Story's Comm. on Const.* 387 *to* 392.

And Story has said much more of the same sort as to the absurdity of relying upon "bistory" for the meaniug of the constitution.

It is manifest that if the meaning of the constitution is to be warped in the least, it may be warped to any extent, on the authority of history; and thus it would follow tbat the constitution would in reality be *made* by the historians, and not by the people. It would be impossible for tbe people to mnke a constitution, which the historians might not cbange at pleasure, by simply asserting that the people intended thus or so.

Hear Judge Tappan of Ohio, Late Senator in Congress. — The fugitive slave law of 1793 and its supplement of last session, sre wholly unconstitutional. When I was on the bench, I decided that Congress could not constitutionally empower the state officers to enforce the laws of the U. S. The Supreme Court of the United States have since made a like decision. The law of 1793, therefore, so far as it empowers the State officers to enforce the law, is now admitted to be unconstitutional. The constitntion does not give any power to Congress to legislate on the subject of fugitive slaves. No express power is claimed. It gives no implied power, because the implied powers are only such as are "necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers," viz: the powers of Congress in section VIII, and all other powers "vested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or offices thereof." No power, is, therefore, given to Congress to act on the subject of fugitive slaves. The last clause of section 2, article IV, No person held to service or lahor, &c., is simply an agreement between the States, and it is for the States to determine in what way and before what tribunal such 'claims' shall be tried and settled. This would have been done probably, had not the slaveocracy, by passing the unconstitutional law of 1793, took the business out of their hands. An article in s late Evening Post takes some very sound views of the subject. But why do I write this to you? I have long thought and said tbat the law of 1793 wss unconstitutional. Senator Chase published the same opinion in the Vsn Zandt case. I think that now is the favorable time to urge this matter upon the public consideration. The Supreme Court has decided, with the above exception, the laws to be unconstitutional. Let us appeal to their masters — the people — and prove to the satisfsction of that higher court, that the law is not merely outrageous, but that it is void for want of power to the makers.—*Post.*

GOVERNOR OF OHIO.

EXTRACT FROM HIS MESSAGE.

"That Congress, having by the constitution, authority to legislate for the District of Columbia "in all cases wbatsover," may there abolish it, I entertain no doubt. Congress is, by the Constitution, the local legislature of the District, and all cases within the legitimate sphere of legislation, are embraced within the terms, "in all cases whatsoever." As used in that instrument Congress appears to me to possess tbe same legislstive power over slavery, within the ten miles square tbat may be exercised by the legislatures of the slsve Stntes over it, within tbeir jurisdiction: and that it hss been considered, in those states, a proper subject of legislation, their history furnishes the most satisfactory evidence.

I hsve viewed the abolition of slavery in the District not only a measure of expediency, but of nbsolute natural right to the colored race.—The South would doubtless acquiesce in such a measure for if we expect to remain one people, there is an absolute necessity of adhering to the decisions of constitutional majorities within their legitimate spheres of action."

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES:

Whereas Congress, at its late session, did pass a Bill entitled "An act to amend and supplementary to an act entitled 'An act respecting fugitives from justice and persons escaping from the service of their masters,' approved February 12th, 1793;" which said enactment was approved by the President, September 18th, 1850—

We, the undersigned, residents of the Town of
in the County of and State of Maine, regarding that Act as in conflict with the Constitution of the United States, and also as infringing upon the duties which we owe to benevolence, to humanity and to God; and being unwilling to comply with its requisitions, or submit to its penalties, earnestly ask its speedy and unconditional repeal.

MALES.	FEMALES

A CONTRAST.

On Monday evening, the 22d of December, at the dinner of the New Eugland Society at the Astor House, a man prafanely styled the 'Godlike,' and fulsomely vaunted as the 'Defender of the Constitution,' made a speecb in whieb he lauded the 'sterner virtues' of the Pilgrims, and yet declared that their descendants are not called upon to 'imitate,' but only to 'emulate' those virtues. At the same hour tbere was lying in the custody of the United States Marsbal of this district another man, whose office wns not that of making speecbes at dinner but of waiting on the table, who had been arrested as a fugitive slave under a law which would never have become a law but for the influence and efforts of this same descendant of tbc Puritans, who would not imitate their stern regard for right drawn from the higher law. While the Defender was drinking down wine and flattery at tbe Astor House, the Defenseless was in thc lockup revolving in agony the probabilities of being made a slave hy the 'Constitution.'

On Tuesday moruing, 'the god-like' received at the City Hall the adulations of the Union Safety Committee, and dilated upon the benefits nnd glories of the Union. At the same hour, and in a room of the same building, the mighty power of the Union was remorselessly applied to crush a man made in the image of God.—*Independent.*

MR. WEBSTER THE WINE SELLER.

The great "Defender of the Constitution"—the "embodiment" of the "Law and order parts," has engaged in the liquor trade.

Two thousand one hundred and fifty-nine bottles of wiue, the property of tbe Hon. Daniel Webster, were sold at auction by Coolidge & Haskell on Saturdny. The wiues were costly and went of at high prices. A small lot (12 bottles) of "Essex Junior" went as high ns seven dollars per bottle (common wine bottles.) When the "Constitution" was put up, (an article imported hy the Hon. Daniel Webster himself in August 1833,) the bidding became quite brisk. Every person present seemed anxious to get at least one bottle of the "Constitution." It was finally knocked off—5 bottles to Mr. Curtis; 5 do, to Mr. Eastburn, City Printer; 5 do, to Mr. Appleton; 5 do, to Mr. Sargent, &c. Judge Warren took six bottles, Messrs. Saltonstall, Rodman, Rich, Mason, Joseph Whitney, and Mr. Skinner each took one or more bottles. The same Mr. Skinner bid off a number of "Yellow Jackets" at $4 per bottle.

These wines it is said were held as collateral security for money loaned by an eminent merchant and active New York politician. Mr. Webster having failed to face up, the wines were sold.—*Boston Rpeublican.*

How mucb tbe wines contrihuted to obtain a true response from tbe "oracle" it is difficult to say; hut we hope the Expounder will not cry in despair, "Ye have taken away my Gods"!

INFLUENCES FROM WASHINGTON AGAINST LIBERTY.

The correspondent of the Mass. spy writes:

Capitol, Saturday, Dec. 21.

Congress rests to-dsy. The members are prepsring to encounter the holidays. If there be any thing of interest passing, it has not come to my ears. The members concern themselves more about the news from sbroad, than about anything transpiring here. News from Ohio, New York, and Massachusetts, relating to the choice of U. S. Senators, is awaited with grest anxiety, and studied with care. The strait to which iniquitous compromisers are reduced in those Sstes, especially the last is a matter of serious trouble to the powers that be, and unceasing are the efforts, through the mails, by direct sppeals, by advice, by entreaty, by artifice and fraud, to prevent such a union nmong the opposition as shall overthrow their power, and introduce into the Senate a permanent and respectable elcment of liberality and progress. The mails to Ohio, and to Massachusetts fairly groan under the weight of missives, such as I hsve described. Delay, intrigne, coalition, or sny thing else that will avsil to stave off action, or to distract the friends of Freedom, or tn save a little power to the serviles, is counseled and commanded. — But these things will not answer their designed purposes. I do not think an election will be delsyed in Ohio. You know best in regard to Massachusetts. In Ohio. a free soil man, whose life has given assurance of his integrity will be chosen.

The National Era.—The new volume of the Era commences with the next number. A new work is announced from the author (J. G. Whittier) of Margaret Smith's Dairy, entitled "My Summer with Dr. Singletary," to run through 10 or 15 numbers of the Era. "A Story of the Mexican War," by Grace Greenwood, is also promised, and sketcbes from Mary Irving and Martha Russell. The literary department of the Era is quite as good as that of the popular magazines in point of ahility and hetter in its moral tone.

PEACEABLE SOLUTION OF THE GERMAN QUESTION.

At length, we have something like certain intelligence from Berlin and Vienna, and tbanks to an overruling Providence, the news is of decidedly peaceful import. Ligbt and relief have come from an unexpected quarter. The evil disposed aud ill-advised Elector of Hesse Cassel has consented to return to his capital; Bavarians and Austrians are to retire from the Electorate, nnd the Prussian corps to fall back within their own frontiers; and as it is hoped, Law resume its autbority in Hesse. We are not in haste to believe ought very good of Lord Palmerston and our miuisters, who, indeed, get bullied sufficiently by the Austro-Russian press here; hut there is good reason to believe that a "*Circular*" sigued "Palmerston," has been chiefly instrumental in producing this bappy result. The circular urged forbearance upon hoth Austria and Prussia; and quietly hinted that England could not remain neutral if tbe peace were broken by either Court. At the same time, Mr. Howard, an English Cbarge, gave good advice to the higbly criminal Elector, which it is presumed he at length snw the wisdom of accepting. Every communication from the electorate, and private letters to Germans of high respectability in our great towns, go to show the really admirable spirit which have pervaded the people, and which would be peculiarly pleasing to American citizens generally, and the large number of German Americans particularly. A very fair subscription has been raised, chiefly hy Germans here, to aid the civil and military officers whose families were tbrown into circumstances of distress through faithfulness to their oaths and the constitution.—Similar efforts were made in Berlin.—*Foreign correspondence of the Independent.*

RESOLUTIONS OF THE DISUNION MEETING IN BATH.

Resolved, That we have assembled here this evening the consistent, decided friends of our whole country, and the ardent, uncompromising supporters of the Union of these States as created and defined by the Federal Coostitution.

Resolved, That the North American Union firmly cemented, and admirably adapted to the necessities of a grest people, by the adoptien of the Federal Constitution, is of too high a value and importance to cvery section of our country, to be permitted to be rent asunder by the mad schemes of fanatics, or to be sacrificed for any cause, which the wisdom, patriotism, foresight and moderation of our law abiding citizens can avert.

Resolved, That the blessings which have flowed from free institutions, that the wisdom snd patriotism of our fathers introduced and gave us, impose npon us the most weighty obligations to transmit them unimpaired to those who may follow us. So that any shrinking from duty, on our part, in this matter, or any surrender of this legacy would be doubly criminal, as it would be a great wrong to ourselves, and a base betrayal of the interests and claims of posterity.

Resolved, That we believe that the ssme spirit which dictsted the necessary compromises of the Federal Constitution was clearly manifested, and imperiously demanded in the compromise and pence measures of the late session of Congress.

Resolved, That we hold the late law in relation to the fugitives from service, to be constitutionsl—that as one of the peace measures it should be fully tested; and thnt resistance to a legal enforcement of that law, or any cry of 'repeal,' would csll for the indignant frown of every true friend of his country, as it would be in entire disregard of the political rights and interests of our whole people.

Resolved, That the present alarming crisis in the history of our eountry calls for the utmost wisdom and moderation on the part of every true citizen — for judicious and concilintnry counsels, snd for hnrmony of action—so tlist the political fansticism, now so rife st the North and South, and threatening such disastrous consequences, msy be rebuked, and the supremacy of the law sustained.

Resolved, That in tbe wise Union of the several States under our Federal Government is to be found the secret of the unprecedented prosperity of this country—thnt to this our noble commercial marine owes its grestness and its vitality—that without it commerce, manufsctures and all the great interests of our country would hsve lsnguished in utter feebleness.

Resolved, That in view of all the unnumbered blessings flowing from our Constitutional Union, in which thc citizens of Bath and vicinity largely participate, we shall hold the man false to his country, who shnll on any pretence, whether of a 'higher lsw' or other ground, decry the Constitution of the United States, or any law of Congress required by and in accordance with the provisions of that Constitution. And here are our citizens, invoking the blessings of Heaven—on our country's altar, we mutually pledge to each other our best efforts to sustain in all its integrity, and to render perpetual our glorious Union.

POSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

It csn no longer be clnimed by sny man having the slightest pretence to honesty, that the administration doea not fully approve of the legialation of the lsst sessiun on the subject of slavery, or that it is not disposed to see the enactments sustained and carried out, *the infamous fugitive slave law included.* There is no room for doubt in the matter. The President's message put the qnestion at rest. He says:—"I believe the measures *to have been* REQUIRED *by the circumstances and condition of the country.* I believe they were NECESSARY, to allay ssperities and animosities," &c. He speaks of them, too, as "a *settlement* in principle and substance—FINAL SETTLEMENT of the dangernus and exciting subjects which they embraced," and, he adds: "I RECOMMEND your ADHERENCE *to the adjustment established by those measures.*"

The President not only endorses snd approves of these messures, in the most decided and unequivocal manner, but gives a broad intimation that he will veto any bill for the repeal of them or nny of them. It is so understood everywhere. This is the view taken of his language by our Washington correspondent, whose letter we published yesterday.—Sn also it is represented in Giddings' speech, noticed in our Congressional proceedings, nnd no admistration member demurred at it.—Bot to leave no doubt on the suhject we quote from the National Intelligencer, the leading whig paper of Washington, the following passage, in its editoral leader ol Saturday:

"No one can doubt, who reads in connection the passsges in the message which bear upon this object the fixed determination of the President not only to take care that laws enacted on the subject *shall be faithfully executed*, but to HOLD ON TO THEM, with all his MIGHT, and *with all his constitutional authority*, as the SHEET ANCHOR *of the national peace and safety.*"

This is plain and nnequivocal. It is "the fixed determination" of our "whig" president, to "hold on" to tbe fugitive slave law and the laws permitting slavery to be carried into all the immense reginns of New Mexico and Utah, *with all his might*, and with all his *constitutional* authority;" and this coustitutional authority includes the veto power.

Tbis, then, is the position of the whig administration, and must of course be the position of the wbig party. Will not the true hearted freemen of the north rnpudiate such an administration and such a party? — *Mass. Spy.*

VOTES FOR GOV. 1850.

The *Age* makes out this summary from records of town clerks in nearly all cases:—

	Hubbard.	Crosby.	Talbot.	Others.
Aroostook,	881	664	18	
Cumberland,	6111	4522	1243	3
Frsnklin,	1672	910	608	1
Hancock,	2025	1723	138	
Kennebec,	3091	4020	872	1
Lincoln,	4652	4855	433	2
Oxford,	4214	1509	707	1
Penobscot	5136	3562	782	2
Piscataquis,	1174	911	307	1
Somerset,	2282	2651	601	2
Waldo,	3755	1777	605	1
Washington,	2263	2193	292	4
York,	3964	3011	646	
	41220	32308	7252	19
		7252		
	39579	19		
Hub's msj.,	1641	39579		

Oppression.—The disunion and secession orstors in the South, assert that the people are awfully oppressed by the general government—robbed, degraded, &c. The orators are mostly lawyers. Now, it is a fact, which no intelligent man will deny, that the people of the South were never more prosperous since the country was settled. Every kind of property sells readily, and at fair prices while cotton is selling at 14 cents, and negro fellows from eight hundred to one thousand dollars.—*Mobile Advertiser.*

FROM THE BRITISH PROVINCES.

Papers from St. John N. B. to Dec. 24th, have been received. The papers and people still continue to discuss the question of a severance of the British connexion. At a meeting of the Free Discussion Club, at St: John, one of the speakers said:—

"It nppears to me, sir, that neither Great Britain or the Colonies are pecuniarily interested in the maintenance of the present connection. Let us take a brief glance at American History; it is not necessary to trace the snail-like progress made by the old thirteen Colonies while under the British flag; but let us come down to the close of Mr. Madison's administration—in, I think, 1817—with a population of only *nine and a half millions*, and an export of only $60,000,000, one third of which was cotton. Contrast that, sir, with the export trade of the United States at the present day.

"The United States now hoasts of population of at least 24,000,000, and an export of not less than $150,000,000.

"I have asked myself these questions. If the British flag had been flying in the United States to this day, would they have such a population? Would such a stream of emigration have flowed from the old world to the new? Would ss many foreign emigrants bave been drawn to their shores? I think not, sir! What Great Britain considered a loss at the time has turned out vastly to her sdvantsge; the Americans have proved themselves her best friends and customers.

The following are stated to be leading principles of the Reformers of New Brunswick:—

1. Party Government; and Government by heads of departments.
2. Municipal Corporations; and the Initiation of the money grants in the hands of the Government.
3. Reduction of salaries commensurate with the condition of the Province.
4. Vote by ballot, and a Registration of voters
5. A complete revision of the Laws, with a view to their simplification.
6. Free Schools throught the Province.
7. Government measures for developing the Provincial resources.
8. A Provincial system of Agriculture.
9. A liberal scheme for encouraging emigration, and settling the public lands.
10. The most rigid economy in the public expenditures
11. Biennial Parliaments.
12. An Elective Legislative Council,
13. Free Trade with every Nation that will reciprocate.
14. Opposed to Downing street dictation.
15. Self Government (in local matters) to its fullest exent.

The Morning News says that the days of the Executive Council of New Brunswick are numbered. The New Brunswicker also ssys: "That the present Government of the Province is tottering to a fall, passing events plainly indicate"

ARRIVAL OF THE BALTIC.

The commercial news is interesting, showing a slight improvement in cottou, with a steady market.

Trade in the manufacturing districts was steady, and higher rates are paid for yarns and woollens.

The several departments of trade, commerce and finnnces were beginning to manifest an improving tendency. The market for foreign and colonial produce bnd a more active appearance, nnd there is every prospect of a further improvement taking place by the beginning of the new year. The coru markets, although not active, kept steady.—A limited business was going forward in cured provisions. Wool commanded increased attention, aud holders are lookiug for higher rates.

Continental advices apeak of an improved appearance at the chief markets there, consequent upon the partial subsidence of political matters.

The events in Central Europe have goue on varying in aspect during the week, and whatever may be said about the condition of peace or rathor of postponement of hostilities agreed upon at Olmutz, we see hut little to sbake our conviction that both parties are trying to overreach each other, and that the "Free Conferences" which are to open on the 18th iust. at Dresden, are not more likely to settle permanently the relative prepouderancy or "psrity" of Austria and Prussia tban any of the numerous diets and honds which hnve tried their hands to this Gordian knot during many years past.

Beyond the discovery of a new socialist plot at Toulton, France continuea tranquil, but the red democrats at London, in connection with those in Switzerland, are watching the progress of events, and auticipating the moment, wben, as they say, they may strike at the existence of kingly authority in Europe, and restore the repuhlic "one and indivisihle" There is evidently an undercurrent at work in France and Italy, and the *ultramontane* party seem exceedingly auxious to preserve peace in Europe, fearing tbat if a war ahould break out from the animosity of races in Germany, it will be certain to resolve itself eventually into a war of principles.—The anniversary of the election of the President of the republic of France was celehrated on the 10th, with great splendor iu Paris. Other accounts of the various fetes and halls, given on the occasion, occupy several pages of the French journals.

An authenticated report has reached Paris from Marseilles, that a revolution has broken out at Palermo.

A change of ministry has taken place at Madrid, the finance minister, Bravo Murillo having reisgned.

Fresh disturbances bave taken place at Aleppo. The insurgents, in spite of their recent losses, have made another attack upon the city, and have been once more defeated.

From the Cape of Good Hope we have late advices to the 26th October. The fears of a Caffre irruption had subsided. Above 1000 fresh emigrants had arrived at Natal from England; hut another accident bnd occurred to a vessel in that harbor. No lives were lost.

GEORGIA CONVENTION

In the Georgia Convention on the 13th inst., resolutions were offered declaring that they hold the American Union secondary in importence only to tbe rights and principles it was designed to perpetuate; that Georgia maturely considered tbe series of compromise measures adopted by the last Congress, and that whilst it does not wholly approve, it will ahide hy them as permanent adjustments of the sectional controversy; that Georgia will and ought to resist as the last resort the disruption of every tie tbat binds her to the Union,—any further act of Congress for abolishing slavery in places within the slave-holding States ceded for national purposes, or any act suppressing the slave trade between slave-bolding States, or any refusal to admit as a State any Territory hereafter applying, because of the existing of slavery therein,—or any act prohibiting the introduction of slaves into the Territories of Utah and New Mexico, or any act repealing or materially modifying tbe laws now in force for the recovery of fugitive slaves; that it is tbe deliberate opinion that upon the faithful execution of tbe fugitive slave law by the proper authorities, depends the preservation of the Union.

Disunion Proceedings in Mississippi.—The Mississippi Legislature, by a joint action of both houses, have appointed a committee of 14 of the house and 7 of the senate, who will report a bill calling a convention with plenary powers to take sucb steps as tbe state may deem proper under present difficulties. It is said that tbis proposition will be carried by a decided majority. Gov. Quitman has sent in a message asking for the immediate organization of the militia.

Never let slip an opportunity of gaining a new idea.

Heroines of Sacred History. By Mrs. Eliza R. Steele.

We are indebted to Mr. Lord, Bookseller, for a copy of this beautiful book.

Mrs. Steele has thrown all the charms of narrative and fiction around her heroines, Miriam, Deborah, Ruth, Esther, Jehosheba, Jeptha's Daughter, and Judith. No pamphlet stories at all compare with these for dramatic effect, or moral instruction. They show bow the Bible is stript of its foliage and flowers by tbe usual didactic dress in which it is presented, and how untrue to the beautiful original and to nature is that almost unvarying round. If our readers want—for a preseut or otherwise—a really delightful book, get the Sacred Heroines.

Little's Living Age for last week came to hand, filled as usual with interesting matter. This week's No. has not arrived. For terms see prospectus in another column.

☞ We shall next week take some notice of the speeches at the Bath meeting. The resolutions are in this paper.

— There is some talk of establishing a free soil weekly newspaper in the town of Adams, Mass.

☞ *The Meredith Bridge (N. H.) Democrat* cannot be classed with those democratic papers which puzzle the reader to find out which side of popular question they advocate; as the following will show:—

"We acquiesce, for peace" sake, in the recent compromise measures, generally, although we wished that some of them might be differently adjusted, while they were under discussion in Congress. But that odious Fugitive Slave Bill we cannot swallow; it "sticks in our crop" tremendously! We cannot reconcile it with the democratic doctrines of universal freedom and equal rights. It is abominable; and it so wars against all our notions of fair, republican legislation, that we shall, by all landable means, by candid argument and persuasion, urge its speedy repeal, or at all events, its very essential modification. We believe it to be unconstitutional.

A New Demand of Slavery.

"A bill has heen introduced into the Legislature of North Carolina, laying a tax upon all articles manufactured at the North aud brought into that State for sale. The law is to remaiu in force until the fugitive law is faithfully carried into effect throughout the United States, and *until all the terrritories of the United States are opened to the people of North Carolina, to carry thither any species of property they may think proper.* This act is to be transmitted to the Governors of other Southern States, with a request that similar laws be passed in each State."

ALL SORTS.

— We learn from the Chorokee *Advocate* that there are twenty-two schools in the several districts of that nation, in which more than one thousand male and female scholars are under instruction.

Niagara Falls caving in.—The Niagara Falls Iris of Dec. 14, says that a part of the rock of Horse Shoe Fall, about ten rods in length and four rods iu width, tumbled down on the evening of the Tuesday previous.

— The Grand Jury of this district has found two bills against Chaplaiu, for "stealing and carrying away" the negroes of Messrs. Stephens and Toombs.

— Twenty-five Hungarians left Cincinnati, a few days since, for Minnesota, where they intend to settle as farmers.

— Turkeys are selling in Cincinnati at 25 cents each.

— A dry dock is uearly completed at Calais, Me.

— Rev. Mr. French of Nelson, N. H. has a lead mine in a bluff near his bouse, from which three men can dig daily a ton of plumhago, worth $60.

Methodist Missions.—The domestic missions of the Methodist Church, according to Bishop Janes, comprises 350 stations, and employs 327 missionaries. Connected with these, are almost 30,000 church members.

The shakers.—We learn that an agent of the New Hampshire Shakers has purchased a tract of land on the Ohio, with the purpose of removing the fraternity to the West.—*Chronotype.*

— Daniel Webster, in his speech at the Pilgrim Festival in New York had the impudence to thank God for "civil liberty and trial by jury." The hypocrite has done more to break down tbe trial by jury in this country than he can do to sustain it. He has declared that in a matter of personal liberty to a fugitive slave, the Constitution does not demand a trial hy jury. A pretty man to praise the English patriots!—*Lowell American.*

— The Boston Bee says that the Maverick Church and Society at East Boston, have extended a call to the Rev, S. R. Thurston, of Searsport, Me., to hecome their pastor.

— Died in Brunswick, Mr. Hugh Dunlap, aged 100 years and 6 months.

— It is proposed to make the ferry over the Kennebec, between Hallowell and Chelsea free. The cost of running the boat per annum is $400.

(An experiment worth trying.)

— The Cambridge of the Springfield Repuclican writes;—"Mr. Webster is understood to bave been lately tbe recipient of a generous present in money from some of his old rich friends in Boston; rumor puts it at $25,000."

— *Another storm* of snow came upon us Saturday night and Sunday almost equal to the preceeeing.

— The New Hampshire Conatitutional Convention have voted a biennial election by the people, of a State Commissioner of Agriculture, whose duties and pay shall be fixed by the Legislature.

MARRIAGES.

In Falmouth, 26th ult, Mr. Benjamin W. Adams to Miss Sarah B. Colley of F.

In Lewiston, 22d ult, Mr. Jeremiah Taylor to Miss A. G. Maxim; 24th, Mr. Thomas F. Allard to Miss Philena F. Merrill, all of Lewiston.

In Auburn, 25th ult. Mr. William Frost to Miss R. B. Briggs.

In Thomaston, 22d ult. Capt. Edmund R. Webb to Miss Sarah Fr Woodhull, both of T.

In North Waldoboro', 19th ult, Mr. James Heyer to Miss Fleanor Wallace; also Mr. Moses E. Shuman to Miss Sophia J. Overloch, all of N. W.

In Camden, Capt James Reed to Miss Mary Sheer.

In Augusta, 19th, Edward Walcut, of Natick, Mass. to Mrs. Hannah P. Henry, late Principal of the Female Department of the Waterville Liberal Institute.

In Bangor, 24th inst., Mr. Wm. H. Pierce to Miss Louisa P. P. Bridges, of Bangor.

In Solon, Mr. John Moore, Jr., to Miss Phebe Hamhlet.

In Norway, 19th. Mr. Daniel Pierce, of Limerick, to Miss Emeline Hall.

In Bangor, 21st inst. Mr. Thomas M. Hester, of Glenburn, to Miss Anna Folsom of Levant.

In Brewer, Mr. Rufus K. Kilgore to Miss Philanda B. Harthorne, of B.

DEATHS.

In Bloomfield, 17th ult, Miss Angelina, daughter of Capt. Geo. W. King, aged 19.

In Bath, 24th inst. Mrs. Rachel H. Parker: 22d, Sarah Abby, only daughter of T. H. G. Parsons, aged 6 years.

In Baldwin, Dec. 21, Mrs. Lydia, wife of Dr. James Norton.

In Cherryfiled, 9th inst. Mrs. Abigail B. Merritt.

In Gardiner, 17th ult, Susan G., wife of George Shorey, aged 23; Nathaniel Newell, aged 50; 23d, Capt. James Marston, aged 74.

☞ Vermont has added 21000 to her population since 1840.

☞ The whale fisheries are said to have been very successful, and extraordinary quantities of oil are on the way home.

Buffalo.—The Michigan-street Baptist church is once more with a pastor. Rev. D. Miller was ordaiued on the 7th instant. He is a colored gentleman of fair talent, and promises to be higbly serviceable. That church numbers about eighty members, and some of the bretliren are among out best citizens. One or two of the deacons, among others, are liahle at auy time to fall into the hands of the slave catcher; but it would be with a great deal of reluctance, to say the least, that the citizens would see them borne away.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Travelling Agents.

WM. C. STINSON.

JACOB AMES. A. A. BARKER.

LEVI T. BOOTHBY. L. G. ELDRIDGE.

L. D. SHORT.

UNION MEETING!

The citizens of Portland, who are in favor of the Constitution and the Union of the States, are requested to meet in the CITY HALL, next Saturday Evening, Jan. 4, 1851, at 7 o'clock, to consider the evil consequences likely to result from the FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW! Several Gentlemen will address the Meeting.

A Word to our Patrons.

READER! Are you owing for the Portland Inquirer? If yes, then make us a New Years' Present of the amount due.

If you care anything about us or our paper, you will bestir yourself and send us the amount that will balance your account to the year 1851, which is so near upon us—then as we start together on another years' journey, we shall both feel the happier. If you are in the least skeptical, you have only to try it. We feel sure that you will be a much hpppier man by the operation.

Publisher.

To our Patrons in WASHINGTON COUNTY.

MR. ISAAC H. THOMAS, of Eden, Me. will visit Washington County this month on a collecting tour—and we hope our subscribers in that county, ONE and ALL, will give him a cordial reception—not only in paying arrears, but for a year in advance.

OFFER EXTRAORDINARY.

We will make a handsome New-Year's Present to every person who will get us a new subscriber during this month, and send in the name and the subscription on or before the last day of the month.

We have, in advance, wished you a Happy New Year: Now who of all our friends, will not do so much to make our New Year happy, as to procure one new subscriber.

NOTICE TO AGENTS.

Our Agents will please be particular in their directions to us for new subscribers—especially in reference to the Post-office address. Also, in the amounts paid and to what date they give receipts, that our books may correspond with their receipts. All subscribers in the same town should be kept together.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

At this Office, a few Cords of first quality

Dry Hard Wood

in Exchange for the PORTLAND INQUIRER—a good Family Newspaper, which no friend of EQUAL RIGHTS should be without. 36—d12

☞ Any articles of provision wanted in the family, will be equally acceptable

Gravestones! Gravestones!!

WE manufacture from Foreign and Domestic Marble of a superior quality, finished in a style that cannot be surpassed in New England, and at a less price than can be bought at any other place in this State, of the same quality.

What we say, we mean, and those who are in want of Monuments, Grave-stones, Tomb-tables, &c., will find it for their interest to give us a call before purchasing.

Work delivered at any place within fifty miles of our shop free of charge. CHANEY & COOK.

308 Congress St., a few rods west of the market, Portland

SOMETHING NEW!

PATENT RIGHT SECURED!

THE subscriber has at his Rooms, No. 80 Middle St. Portland, a new style of DAGUERREOTYPE CASE, containing a convex Lens, ground glass, &c. through which the Daguerreotype looks the size of life; and indeed so close is the resemblance, that it is often hard to convince the beholder that he is not actually looking at the substance instead of the shadow.

Please call and examine specimens.

Pictures put in the above or common styles unsurpassed. at No. 80 Middle street, Portland, opposite the new Custom House. S. L. CARLETON.

January 1, 1851. tf—1

FREEDOM NOTICE.

Jay, Dec. 27, 1850.

I HEREAFTER relinquish to my son Timothy D. Basford, 19 years of age, his freedom to trade and transact business for himself. And I shall hereafter claim none of his wages, nor pay any debts of his contracting. EBENEZER BASFORD.

Lucinda Basford, Josephina Basford, } Witnesses. tf—1

FREEDOM NOTICE.

Jay, Dec. 27. 1850.

I HEREAFTER relinquish to my son Charles B. Basford, 17 years of age, his freedom to trade and transact business for himself. And I shall hereafter claim none of his wages, nor pay any debts of his contracting. EBENEZER BASFORD.

Lucinda Basford, Josephina Basford, } Witnesses. tf—1

CURE FOR LUNG COMPLAINTS.

DOWNS' ELIXIR

Is a most effectual remedy for Lung and Liver complaints. It cures Colds, Coughs, Whooping Cough, Croup, Asthma, Bleeding at the Lungs, Bronchial Affections, Canker in the Throat and Stomach, and Lung and Liver Complaints. It has cured many cases of what was believed to be confirmed Consumption.

It is highly concentrated and sold in 2 oz. and 4 1-2 oz. bottles at 50 cents and $1 per bottle.

Large numbers of certificates of its good effects have been published, and we are constantly receiving new ones, but try it, and it will be its own best commendation.

Sold by Druggists and dealers in medicine generally.

Nov. 28, 1850. 44

SARTAIN'S MAGAZINE.

Offer Extraordinary!!!

The high position which SARTAIN'S MAGAZINE has assumed in regard to its literary character, has, we believe, never been questioned. No American, and no European magazine has ever arrayed in its support a more accomplished corps of contributors. Minds of the highest order have, from the first, been employed to write for it. With a view, however, to draw forth, for the use of their readers, articles of still greater value, the proprietors have determined, in addition to the present outlay for literary contributions, to offer the sum of

ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR TEN PRIZE ARTICLES.

To be published monthly till the series is completed.

This offer is entirely different from the usual schemes bearing the same name. Those schemes generally propose an apparently high price for a few stories, without putting any limit upon the length, and claiming as gratuitous all that do not gain a prize. Thus they often, under the appearance of liberality, are only lotteries to secure a large amount of matter at a small price. Thus, also, their proprietors fill out their periodicals from month to month with stories of interminable length, the author who will offer the longest story, being pretty sure to gain the prize. In our plan, on the contrary, the writers are limited as to space, no article being accepted which exceeds a very moderate length. We want the BEST articles, not the longest. Moreover, all the pieces which do not gain a prize are to be returned to the authors, unless otherwise negotiated for. In other words, the publishers offer to pay for each of these special articles the sum of One Hundred Dollars.

Their object is to secure, besides their usual variety and excellence of matter, a series of monthly articles entirely superior to any thing heretofore published in the magazines. They have determined to place their magazine, in respect to its literary character, beyond the reach of competition.

The pieces offered in competition must be presented by the first of April, 1851. They may be tales, essays, or articles of a miscellaneous character, according to the taste or judgment of the writers, but must be on subjects of general interest, must be of a character suited to interest the great mass of readers, must contain something striking and likely to arrest attention, and must, moreover, be of moderate length,—say about six or eight magazine pages.

In selecting from the articles offered, the proprietors will be governed by the decision of a committee of competent and disinterested judges, whose names will be announced in the March number of the Magazine. The publication of the series will be commenced immediately after the decision of the committee, and each article will be paid for the month upon which it is published.

☞ All contributions intended as prize articles must be marked accordingly, with the name of the author in a sealed envelope, (which will not be opened till the award is determed,) and must be addressed, post paid, to

JOHN SARTAIN & CO. Philadelphia.

ALBANY CULTIVATOR.

This Monthly periodical is one of the most truly valuable agricultural papers in the country, whether we regard the honor or advancement of that great interest. A new volume commences with 1851. Terms $1 in advance.

Markets, &c.

[Reported for the Boston Evening Traveller.]

BOSTON MARKET.

Monday, Dec. 30.

FLOUR—
Genessee, common brands, per bbl. $5 25
fancy and extra, $5 37 a $6 50
Michigan, common, $4 94 a $5 00
fancy, $5 25
Ohio, common, $4 93 a $5 00
St. Louis, common, 4 mos. $4 93

GRAIN—
Corn—Yellow, per bush. 67 a 68c
Mixed, 70c
White, 65c
Oats—Northern, 43 a 45c; Eastern, 40 a 45c.
Rye, 81c

PROVISIONS—
Pork—Mess, $13 50 a $13 75; Prime, $9 00 a $9 50; Clear, $14 00 a $14 50.
Beef—Western Mess, $10. Eastern, $9 a $9 50.
Hams, 8c per lb, 4 mos.
Lard, 8 a 8 1-2c. per lb.

COUNTRY PRODUCE MARKET.

Portland, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Butter, per lb, first quality,	15 a 18c
Butter, common, per lb.	12 a 15
Beans, per bushel,	$1,50
Beef, by the quarter, per lb,	4 a 5 1-2
Cheese, per lb,	6 a 8c
Eggs, per dozen,	20
Lamb,	3 a 4
Potatoes, per bushel, sound,	50 a 67
Apples, (cooking,)	37 a 50
Chickens, per lb,	6 a 8
Turkies, per lb.	8 a 11
Pork, (round hogs,) per lb.	6 1-2 a 7 1-2
Geese, per lb.	6 a 8

[From the Traveller.]

CAMBRIDGE CATTLE MARKET.

Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1850.

At Market, 1029 Cattle, consisting of 700 Beeves, and the remainder Working Oxen, Cows and Calves, Yearlings, Two years old, and Three year old.

—PRICES.—

BEEF CATTLE—Extra, $5 75 per cwt; first quality $5 50; second quality $5 00; third quality $4 50; ordinary, $3 50 a $4 00.
BARRELLING CATTLE—$2 50, $3, $4.
HIDES—$5 00 per cwt.
TALLOW—$5 50 per cwt.
STORES—Working Oxen, $50, $80, $93.
COWS and CALVES—$14, $24, $30.
YEARLINGS—$5, a 11.
TWO YEARS OLD—$10, $15, a $18.
THREE YEARS OLD—$14, $20, $23.
SHEEP and LAMBS—2591 at market.—PRICES—Extra, $3, $5, a $7. By lot, $1,50, $1,75, $2.25, a $2,75.
SWINE—None.

76 cars came over the Fitchburg Railroad, and 48 over the Boston and Lowell Railroad, loaded with Cattle, Sheep, Horses and Poultry.

Remarks— The market about the same as last week. About 550 of the Cattle, 2000 Sheep, and all the Cows, except 20 on the Lowell Road, arrived last week after the report was closed.

Number from each State:—

	Cattle.	Sheep & Lambs.
Maine,	176	
New Hampshire,	393	1100
Vermont,	361	1491
Massachusetts,	67	
Canada,	42	
Total,	1029	2591

N. B.—Beef—Extra includes nothing but the best large oxen, well stall-fed at least one year. First quality consists of large fat oxen, stall-fed at least several months. Second quality includes the best grass-fed oxen, the best stall-fed cows, and the best three years old steers.

Sheep—Extra consists of choice Bucks, and fancy Yews for stocks, and the best Cossets.

BRIGHTON CATTLE MARKET.

[From the Boston Evening Traveller.]

Thursday, Dec. 26.

At Market, 400 Beef Cattle,— 60 Stores, —14 pairs Working Oxen, 41 Cows and Calves, 400 Sheep and Lambs, and 50 Swine.

—PRICES.—

BEEF CATTLE—Extra, $6 25; first quality $5 75; second $5 00; third $4 50 a $5.
STORES—Yearlings—$6 a $11.
—Two Years Old—$11 a $18.
Three Years Old—$16 a $25.
WORKING OXEN—Dull, $75, $80, $90.
COWS AND CALVES—$19, $23, $30, $37.
SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1 75, $2 00, $2 75, $3. One extra lot sold for $4 each.
SWINE—4 1-2 a 5 1-2c At retail, 4 1-2 a 6 c.

Carpet Warehouse.

SPARROW & TUKEY,

No. 133 Middle Street,

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

CARPETINGS

Of every description.

Painted Floor Oil Cloths,

OF ALL DIMENSIONS.

STRAW MATTING,

BOCKING, RUGS, MATS,

And Carpet Bags.

WESTERN LIVE GEESE AND RUSSIA

FEATHERS,

Hair, Palm Leaf, Husk and Cotton

MATTRASSES,

Window Shade Goods

—AND—

CURTAIN MATERIALS

Of all kinds.

CHAMBERS, NO. 133 MIDDLE STREET,

PORTLAND.

D. S. GRANDIN, M. D.

DENTIST,

145 Middle Street, over J. Durgin's Drug Store.

[*From the Boston Chronotype*]

Valuable Improvement in Dentistry.—We have inspected a plan of setting teeth upon stumps, practised and tested by Dr. Grandin, Dentist, which seems to us to have several important advantages over the common method. By this plan, the greatest precision, firmness and closeness of fit is obtained, while the *decay* of the stump is prevented so far as it is possible to be done.—We cannot but advise all our friends who are about to have their dental apparatus repaired by art, to examine Dr. Grandin's method before employing any other dentist. Though making no show, it is a great practical improvement.

Sept 5, 1850. tf—35

CURE FOR WHOOPING COUGH.

DOWNS' ELIXIR

Is a very desirable medicine to use in this complaint, and probably breaks up the cough more effectually than any other known remedy.

It loosens the cough and enables the patient to raise easily and freely, thus saving the labor of hard coughing.

If you have the Whooping Cough, or if your children keep you awake nights with their coughing, be sure and use DOWNS' ELIXIR, and you will find it all we recommend it.

Sold by Druggists and dealers in medicine generally; and by H. H. Hay; Edward Mason; J. Durgin & Co.; A. Carter & Son and C. F. Corry, Portland.

Doct. Mulney, and T. J. Murray, Saco.

G. W. Pierson, Biddeford.

Warren & King, and Wm. Holden & Co., Saccarappa.

Wm. Baker, and E. T. Gatchel, Brunswick.

Nov. 28, 1850. 44

IMPORTANT NEWS,

BUT NOT FROM CALIFORNIA.

THE subscriber would inform the public that he has for sale at his Store, No. 44 EXCHANGE STREET, a variety of

New and Second Hand Clothing,

Which he offers cheap. New Clothing can be bought low, and the important feature is, that Old Clothes will buy new ones, which is an inducement for every economist to call, and secure such advantages; that is, to refurnish his wardrobe with New Clothes, by casting off his old garments.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT FACT

Is, that in addition to the Stock of New Clothing, the subscriber has the wonderful art of suggesting to the community the Road to Wealth, which is in his science of renovating old Clothes and making them equal in appearance to new. The adoption of such principles of economy, will make all men content with a living, and something laid up for a rainy day, rather than run the risk of going to California to dig gold.

ALL GARMENTS

Cleansed and colors restored. Silks, Drabs and other articles, dyed in a superior manner; and finally California gold given in exchange for cast-off garments, Watches, Books, Shoes, Caps, &c. It is hoped that these considerations will induce every economist and patron of home industry to call at No. 44 Exchange Street, and learn how to get gold and save it without the dangers of the Isthmus.

THOMAS TAYLOR,

May 7, 1850. tf No. 44 Exchange Street.

[From Lowell American.]

THE SLAVE HUNT.

BY HORACE GREELY.

Hark! hear you not the bugle's sound, the widely echoing cry;
And see you not the hunters bold, as they go cheering by?
A rich and gorgeous company of gallant cavaliers;
Of Fletchs, and Statesmen, of Orators and Sears?

Say, whence this gallant company, and what each he-go's name?
And what the mighty chase they urge? Earth has no nobler game.
Such forms might hunt a lion down, but can a weaker thing
Rouse up the mighty from their rest, and to the conflict bring?

It is a glorious chase they urge; earth can no nobler show;
And they have sworn to hunt it down, through every shade of woe;
God's image is an ebon skin; (it pleased him so to form)
And they have sworn it shall receive but bondage, scripes and scorn.

Along they dash in wild career, until so far away,
The Hills of Truth they left behind, are manikd o'er with grey.
Adown the Vale of Sophistry, they speed through thick and thin,
Among the dens, Hypocrisy long hath her dwelling in.

Gloomy and stern as summer clouds when charged with thunder fire and hail,
They come to thresh the budding earth, with vengeance's icy flail.
Gloomy and stern, far in the van, a god-forsaken thing,
Behold the first New England man! of intellect the King.

Oh! how unlike the vision once that stood on Bunker's height,
While at his magic word uprose the splendor of its fight.
Oh! how unlike that god-like one, we saw by Plymouth's strand,
Whence words of truth like tongues of fire, went circling round the land.

Now as he rides, he mutters aye!—"Springfield's a bitter pill:
My Plymouth speech, alas! the day—and Bunk—blast Bunker Hill.
Yet the South will make me President,—that Horace Mann I'll sunder.—
Ah! there's the xraa! by Jove I will!—what villian stole my thunder?"

And pressing fact with fiercest speed, to reach his leader's side
A thin and ghost-like form is seen to move with hanger bowed away.
In the name of Paul and Philemon, he utters the firm command,
Behind his ear a golden quill, a phamphlet in his hand.

Oh! poor old phamphlet, worn and battered! poor old phamphlet all forlorn!
What cruel hands have bruised thee thus? Oh, foul and cruel scorn!
But I do know the laws of game; why won't the people hear?
With such a heavenly leader, too; go passed the angry seer.

Upon a slow but giant steed, the Atlas of the land,
Whose strength hold up the North and South, the one on either hand—
Now here—now there—but follow close, perhaps he'll keep in sight,
Unless a circumstance falls down between you and the light.

With grey locks floating on the blast, a tall and sinewy form,
Bespeaks the approach of one, whose voice hath oft controlled the storm;
His eye still gleam as meteors bright, and o'er his soul-full face,
Are traced the lines of eloquence, of wisdom, wit and grace.

But on his brow does sadness sit, and in his eye a tear,
He seems like one with broken heart, beside his mother's bier;
And as he spure his galled steed, his words break on the gale,
"My compromise an Omnibus?—Old Benton! and I failed."

Genial and smooth, of feather weight, upon his prancing roan,
With eyes that sparkle joyously, in glances 'round him thrown;
The song of victory on his lips, a slave-whip in his hand,
Carries the Bully of the South—the Hangman of the Band.

In friendship or in enmity, these fiends are keen and true.
As they were born, as they were bred, such will they be and do,
Friend, foe, or principle, the same—hid flames around them roll,
And they still swear a Bible oath, a "nigger" has no soul.

But who is this, whose limping hack can hardly stand alone,
With hand on mane, and quivering knee, he only is not thrown,
Upon each side a saddle bag, all dripping rich with dough,
And far behind—a sober set—all Hunkerdom in tow.

He ambles on as best he may, in sorrow sighing sore.
Until his consolation dawns in "Old Virginia's shore."
"Oh, why was I with Southern soul, born in a Northern clime,
Where honesty's the path to wealth? I have not got a dime!"

These are the leaders of the band, but thousands press around,
Whose glittering steel, and wild hallco, cheer on the furious hound.
With sounding bell, with swelling horn, with many a stirring song,—
Sure, such a noble company, ne'er sped the earth along,

The chase flew on from Yorktown's plain, o'er Vernon's honored grave,
O'er Brandywine, and Germantown, still fled the panting slave;
No rest for her at Stony Point,—I saw 'neath Bunker's spire,
A dark-browed girl, and falling tears, she kneeled to God, her Sire.

A moment!—and the bugle's sound fell on her startled ear,—
A moment!—stern necessity has stayed the falling tear;
Away she springs like glancing light; nor dares by Plymouth's grave
To rest one moment from her toil—God made her for a slave!

I could no longer trace the band—but ever as they fled,
Loud shrieks of "Union," shook the earth, and thundered overhead.
Shackles were rattling on the breeze, and slave whips cracked around;
While shouts of mirth, and revelry, gave out a pleasant sound.

It was a pleasant sight to see,—the magnates of the land,
Side forth in loving brotherhood, at Duty's SWEET command;
In proud array, in poup and gold, their weapons by their side,
They "have conquered all my[prejudice"—God's blessing them betide!
Lutzletown, Mass.

SPELLING.—One of Cromwell's followers, who filled the important station of an Irish jussice, at the period of 1661, having occasion to write the word 'usage,' contrived to spell it without using a single letter of the original word; his improvment read thus 'yeeuzitch,' When some remarks were made on similar feats he averred that 'nobody could spell with

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From the Portland Transcript.

IMPORTANT FROM HORNBY.

HORNBY, OCTEMBER 14, 1850.

MR. GOULD AND ELWELL, Esqs:

Dear Sir—Gentlemen—I shall spile! I know I shall. I feel it coming on! Hewman natur! what times we live in! Arter the battles of Montyzeumy had bin fort, it did seem as though this country had ris to its highest climb-axe, but the ways of Providence, an the progress of Himenerwy, is in-scrutable. The passage of the Fewgutive Slave Bill is the knee plus ultry of the significant endewrance of free principles. Father, Kernel Peabody, and others here who used to rave so agin Daniel Webster, callin him a blewlite, federal aburlishimist, naow shaout hozaners to his name—magnifyin him above cherrybims, saraphims, githeralters, an neuw jerewsalims.

The fact is—this here bill takes in hornby—wal, it does. Nothin but deddycation, independent day, cattle show and ginerul trainen ever went ahead out. A meeting has been held, at which it was resolved to present Mr. Webster with tew bushels best shenangers; one dittow bates, one bernli syder, an the liberty of the town. Parson Spuggins—aour new minister, made about the most feelinist speech at the meetin I ever seed. He said niggers was the abomernashun of desserlashun spoken of in Paul's Epistol to Pentyteuk, an had no more bnsiness o breathin the free onmittygated air of liberty, than the devil has in pandimongia or any other good place. He said, now that this bill was fully passed, vetowed and become a law of the land, it was the bounding dewty of every good citizen to catch as many niggers as he could,—more especially as government offered a reward of forty-tew dollar a head. This here, said he, is something like, says he; what's the crow bill an the bounty on bears, or premiums at cattle shows—to this? Verily, continued this reverend gentleman, here is bringin of the Scripture,—which says, the heathen shall be given to the lect for a inherrytance forever. Amen, seeler!

The meetin broke up with three cheers for the Constithuan, Ginerul Jackson, and Daniel Webster.

Next mornin, afore it was cleverly light, father an I, who had lain our plans over night, started arter a nigger, who lived jest over the taown line. He was a clever old critter, was more'n half a doctor, and a first rate nuss. He'd ollers turn aout at any time a night, in any weather, if any body was sick an wanted his sarvices—everybody liked him, speshally aour folks. Many's the time he's came clear over through the deep snow, and watched with me when I had the rebellious fever. An when father had that great sore on his leg, caused by bein bit by the old sow when he got drunk at Kernel Peabody's treat an fell into the hog-pen—then the old nigger tended and nussed him as though he'd been his own son. He made all sorts of mint jewlips an intraents, and like to have got drowned over in cedar swamp where he went arter red willer bark to make arb drink for him. But as father said, what was all this to the Constithuan an the glorious perladium of the insterstooshuns? The Ginerul Court said that niggers was unsarcunsized pagins as didn't belong nowhere, and then lastly, but not leastly, the forty-tew dollars. We'd have catched him if he'd been our grandfather and our grandmother tew.

When we got to the ole man's hut, the sun was jest rising over the Bethel hill, and the nigger was diggin his taters. 'I went on one side of him, and father on tother as still as mice. When close to him, father shouted—Hooray! and lit on him like a jane bug, while I grabbed him by the wool, roaring out—don't you strike, you cussed nigger! Every blow you strike us hits the constitushun, and wounds the star-spangled perladium of hewman rights, says I, a pullin away till the old critter yelled like an injine.

We tied him up like a bundle of skrewed hay, brought him hum, an shot him up in the tater arch. But naow we got him, we dont exactly know what to do with him, or where to carry him to git the baounty. Some says we shall have to carry the nigger on with us agin; others says we ony need carry his skulp! Will yew—squire Gould or squire Elwell—jest inquire into this, and let me know at once, cos we wants the money powerful bad?

Every one envies father's an my fuck in killin tew birds with one stoan—sarvin the government an airnin baounty. Every body is existed too, and nigger huhtin is the great staple comodity in hornby. Eenjest the hull tone of the "Hornby Falank" is aout on dewty. They've started up a meritattow man an his wife, who've lived in aour taown better than twenty years—an at the last accounts had drov them intew a swamp. The falanx had sirrounded an mean to starve the ungodly heathin out. Cap'n Wiggin who commands, swears that if patriotism, grog an valler kin dew it, he's baound to have the varmints, dead or alive, and that he'll stand by Webster an the Constitushun as long as the supplies hole aout. Jim Keyr an Ephe Libby brought in a prisoner yesterday, which they tuk arter a hard battle, in which Ephe lost the better part of his nose, an Jim lost tew of his teeth. He was a queer lookin nigger. He was black enough, but his hair was straight as a paound of candles. Nevertheless, they was offered thirty dollars for him by deacon Wiggin, on speculation, but would'nt take it.

Afore night, however, they was sorry they didn't, for the nigger turned aout to to be deacon Wiggin's own son! He'd bin bnrnin a coal pit, an was "black as the ase of spades"—shake-speare says—Everything is in kermotion! I hav'nt time to rite more. So "*ipay dicksit*" which means more "bime by."

ETHAN SPIKE.

P. S. Aour nigger is varmoused! The door of tater arch was pad-locked, but hinges was leather—the cuss cut em off—as streaked, cheatin father an I aout of forty-tew dollars we worked hard for. Dew seud the paper you put this in rite ou to Daniel, perhaps he'll consider aour case is hard au make up part of the loss. Tell him ever so little wont come amiss, father's gitten old an there's not another nigger in these parts to kitch.

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Shame on us, that we who boast of having raised woman, in the nineteenth century, to the position in life which she ought to hold, so educate her that not one of her powers, mental and physical, can ever retain a full and healthy action. Better go back to the days of our great grandmother, and be content with Dilworth's Spelling Book and Assembly's Catechism—nay, better go to far earlier days, when neither catechism or spelling book detained the damsel from the distaff or the loom, than rear for the coming generation a race of nervous wives and sickly mothers. When the boy runs merrily after his ball, or chases in the race, or leaps over the bound, the girl must walk demurely in the garden, breathe smoothly, running or leaping and jumping, are ungraceful in the girl. When the boy runs freely over the hills, through the woods in the summer, or coasts down the hill, or skates merrily over the pond in winter, the girl untrusted, unbenefitted, walks pensively by the side of her teacher to the village, or takes a two mile airing in the sleigh once a week. In fact, she never thoroughly exercises her body at all, and in consequence, very soon becomes unable to endure any kind of physical exertion.

"Fit only for boys," said a principal of a large female institute to me, the other day, when I remonstrated with him on the importance of these and other little exercises for the girls. For boys, indeed! And has not a girl a physical system to be developed and matured and invigorated? Has she not fatigue to bear, obstacles to encounter, hindrances to overcome, enterprises to carry out, duties to discharge? Has she not the burden of life to carry, and its toilsome road to travel for herself? In her own sphere, does she not require, through life, all the energy, strength, and endurance of which her system shall be capable? In matters not within her sphere is to live in the midst of fashion or to move quietly in circles of country life, or to find her lot on missionary ground, or to struggle against unnecessary adversity, all that can be made of her during her years of education, physically, morally and intellectually, she will need.

To every woman, whatever situation she may occupy, life is in fact, stubborn, earnest and real, to be shaped and moulded by her own efforts, or to be borne and endured by her own fortitude. Happy is she who is prepared for it, not by her own despairing efforts after life, but by the judicious, careful and thorough discipline of early education.—*Com. Adv.*

MONSIEUR AMD HIS ENGLISH MASTER.

A DIALOGUE.

Frenchman. No sair, I nevair shall, can, will learn your vile langue. De verbs alone might, should, could, would put me to death.

Master. Well, then, I'll bite you. Our verb is very simple compared with yours.

F. Sample! vat you call sample? when I say, *que je fuss*, you say dat I might-could-would-should-have-been. Na dat no sample dat! Now sair, tell to me, if you please, what you call one verb?

M. A verb is a word that signifies to be, to do, or to suffer.

F. Eh bien! when I say, *I can't*, which I says, I be, I do, I suffare?

M. It may be hard to say in that particular case.

F. Ma foi, how! might-could-would-should am to know dat? But tell to me if you please, what you mean when you say "de verb is a word."

M. A means *one*, and it is the same as to say, the verb is *one* word.

F. Eh bien! den when I me serve of I might-could-would-should-have-been-loved, I use one verb. Huh! (*with a shrug.*)

M. Yes, certainly.

F. And dat is one word! I tinks him ver long word, wiz more joints dan de scorpion have in his tail.

M. But we do not use all the auxiliaries at once.

F. How many you use once?

M. One at a time. We say I *might*-have-been-loved, I *could*-have-been-loved.

F. And dat is only one word! What you mean by *I could*.

M. I was able.

F. Very well. What you mean by *have*?

M. Holds, possess. It is difficult to say what it means apart from other words.

F. Why you use him den? But what you mean by *been*?

M. Existed. There is no exact synonyme.

F. Ver well! Den when I say, *I could-have-been-loved*, that wills to say, I was-able-hold-existed-loved. Ver well, I understand! De French shild, no higher as dat (*holding his hands about as high as his knees,*) he might-could-would should-count four word, widout de pronoun. Bah! I shall nevair learn de English verb, no, nevair, no time.

M. When you hear me use a verb, you must acquire the habit of conjugating it, just as I love, thou lovest, he loves, and I believe, you *can't* become familiar with the modes and tenses in any other way.

F. Well, den, I shall will begin wiz *can't*, I can't, you can't test, he can't; we can't, ye or you can't, zey can't.

M. It is not so. *Can't* is a contraction of the verb *cannot*.

F. Well zhen. I cannot, shou cannotest, he cannoteth or cannotes; we——

M. No, no! *Cannot* is two words, *can* and *not*.

F. Den what for you tie him togezzer?

M. I see I *ain't* careful enough in my expressions.

F. Stop! hold dere, if you please, I will-shall once more try. I ain't, shou ain'test, he aints; we——

M. Ain't is not a verb, it is only a corruption. I won't use it again.

F. Ma foi! it is all one corruption. May or can I say, I won't shou won'test he won'ts?

M. No, you can't say so.

F. Which den? I might-could-would-should-don't-ain't-won't-can't?

M. No, you can't say any such thing, for these verbs are all irregulars, and *must* not be so used.

F. Muss, what you call *muss*? I muss, shou mussest, he musses. You say so?

M. No, no, no.

F. Well den, I might-could-would-should have-been muss,—how dat!

M. Must is irregular. It never changes its termination.

F. Den what for, why you call him irregulaire, if he no shange? *Ma foi*, he will-shall-be ver regulaire, ver regulaire indeed. Who makes de grammaire English.

M. Nobody in particular.

F. So I tinks, I might-could-would-should-guess so. I will-shall-muss-can understand nevair one grammaire, which say de verb be one word when he be four, five, six, half-dozen, and den call irregulaire de only uniform verb dat nevair shange. Scusey moi, Monsciur, I will-nevair-may-can-might-could-would should study such horrible grammaire no more.—*Com. S. Journal.*

Remember that the beginning of the sublime sciences are often so simple as to seem worthless.

Redeem time for study, the busiest man can spare some moments.

[From the Common School Journal.]

EDUCATION AND CRIME.

We have received from Philadelphia, a valuable pamphlet, entitled, "Influence of Popular Education, as at present conducted upon crime, by Pare Lorenzo, M. D." The object of this pamphlet is the same that has been our polestar for many years, viz., the enforcement of the fact that intellectual education is no defence against vice and crime, and that the one thing needful in all our schools, public and private, male and female, high and low, is moral instruction. After giving the statistics of crime, which more in educated districts than in the uneducated,—in Prussia, for instance, more than in France; in Scotland more than in England,—the writer says, "The facts we have adduced would seem to point to error in our systems of education as the cause; an error not casual, but intrinsic, inherent and radical; an error co-extensive with these systems, and when considered by external influences, poisoning the very fruit of the tree of knowledge. We educate the intellectual faculties, while we neglect the moral, which were designed to rule over government. We stimulate to intensest action the lower faculties, while the superior are left to slumber in inaction. We provide food in excess for the faculties common to man and the brute, while those which were destined to ally man to angels, and to qualify him for the performance of his whole duty to his fellow man, and to his Maker, are suffered to hunger, to famish, and to die." Again, the author truly says, "Though every faculty, whatever its function, bears the impress of the goodness and wisdom of Him who gave it, yet, in man, the lower faculties, when unrestricted, are the superior, tend to excess, and in excess there is evil. Strengthened by influence, they become debased, and then the intellect, unrestrained by the soul's origin and destiny, yields to their impetuosity and races to their depravity. It is thus that man can and does become more degraded than the brute. In common with the brute, he has the animal propensities; in both, these seek indulgence, but in man only, when these seek indulgence, but in man only, when depraved, do they have the aid of superior intellect. Is it not then clear as the noon-day, that the more intellectual faculties are educated, the more is their influence to be dreaded, unless the intellect be controlled and governed by an equal development of the moral powers? Does the merchant mind his ship to sea without a helm? or does the mariner cobalk without a compass? Yet more unwise is the parent who trusts his child on the stormy sea of life, without the helm of moral principle, and the compass of moral truth. Nor can we rely upon the moral faculties are utterly powerless to direct his course." We have only room to make more extract, which we commend to the attention of teachers, school committees, and legislators of the Union. "We know that in every community there is a thoughtfulness on this subject, and a small portion of time set apart for moral exercises by reading, by lecture, or by religious instruction; even these appointed exercises, we are led to fear, are often theoretical rather than practical; addressed to the intellect rather than the heart; always inculcating rather than morality itself, and are thus nearly useless in promoting their end. We know, too, that a salutary restraint is imposed in our schools generally, on all boyish outbreaks or other irregularities, that interfere with the literary exercises. The law, which requires that the teacher, in addition to his literary ability, should possess 'good moral character and teach 'good behaviour;' and some codes even require that 'teachers should exert their best endeavors to impress on the minds of children and youth committed to their care and instruction, the principles of piety, justice, and a sacred regard to truth, &c.' But the words of this very code make it obvious that the legislature, when they framed it, did not contemplate that moral culture should occupy the first place in the schools they were establishing. This fundamental error is propagated through parent, child and teacher, through communities and their delegates, the school committees; for few of these think of *moral* instruction as occupying or designed to occupy the first place in our schools. Hence the bulk of teachers employed for another purpose; each school hour has its own peculiar exercise, and these all, with little exception, are intellectual. The selection of time allotted to each is barely sufficient for the appropriate recitation; teacher and pupils work as in a harness; and the more nearly the latter is brought to resemble a well ordered manufactory, the more perfect it is esteemed. Thus the whole day is passed, and there is no time for the moral training we require, and which, generally occur, too gross to be overlooked, or summarily despatched, every minute devoted to its investigation and correction is considered, by teacher and pupils, as so much time lost, abstracted from the *more important* exercise of the hour. If we feel that there is such a defect; that our children are coming up destitute, to an alarming extent, of that moral principle indispensable to their own happiness and to the welfare of the State, let us, without delay, seek for and apply the remedy, and this, I am sure, is quite in our power; but we must not expect that all our children must see and feel that we are so disposed.

From the Journal of Education.

METEORIC STONES.

For one set of the particles we have anywhere met with, on the subject of Meteoric Stones, we are indebted to Prof. Farrar's Elementary Treatise on Astronomy.

Solid masses, composed of various mineral substances, are often seen to descend from the higer regions of the atmosphere. The fall of such bodies was for a long time doubted, and the prevailing opinion, as to their reality, regarded as a popular superstition. But all the particulars of the phenomenon have been established in such a manner, that the fact can nō longer be questioned.

The most remarkable circumstance respecting these substances is, that they so exactly resemble each other; being all of them pyriteous masses, glittering with metallic grains. The exterior surface is black, as if it had been burned, while the interior is of a yellowish white. They have nearly all the same specific gravity, which may be fixed at 3,501, water being unity. On being analyzed, they always present the same ingredients, and nearly in the same proportions. They are composed of *silex, magnesia, sluphur, iron in a metallic state, nickel*, and some particles of *chrome*.

The common characteristics strongly indicate a common origin. It is, moreover, to be remarked, that iron is hardly ever to be met wih in a metallic state in terrestrial bodies. Volcanic do not contain any which is not oxydated. Nickel is also very rare and never found at the surface of the earth. Chrome is still more rare. These considerations make it probable that the substances in question have an origin foreign to our globe, or at least that they are not brought together by any phenomena hitherto observed.

These solid masses seem to proceed from a meter-like appearance in the air. They are in fact ignited or inflamed bodies, which suddenly present themselves in the atmosphere, and move with a velocity equal, in some instances, to that of the sun in its orbit, or twenty miles in a second. Their direction is generally inclined to the borison. After emitting an intense light for a few moments, they explode with a loud noise, at a height from 18 to 100 miles above the surface of the earth. This is ascertained by their parallaxes, as deduced from several simultaneous observations, made at different places where they were visible at the moment of their explosion. They do not appear to follow any determinate direction, with respect to the earth's motions, but are seen moving towards all points of the compass.

As yet we are ignorant of the true origin of these masses, and various hypotheses have been invented to explain them. Laplace thinks they may be thrown upon the earth by lunar volcanoes. It is found by calculation that this would only require a projectile force about four times that of a cannon ball. This force meeting with very little resistance from the very rare atmosphere of the moon, would be sufficient to send a body without the sphere of the moon's attraction, and then it would be brought to the earth's surface by gravity. Now it is by no means improbable that lunar volcanoes may give such an impulse to a body, since those on the earth are capable of a much greater force, although the greater intensity of gravity at the earth's surface, and especially the enormous resistance of our atmosphere are such as to prevent a corresponding effect. By thus ascribing to meteoric stones a common origin, we account in some degree for the sameness of their composition.

Some philosophers maintain the opinion that the substances under consideration, are small planets, or fragments of planets, carried along in space, like the other heavenly bodies which, upon entering the earth's atmosphere, become inflamed by friction, gradually lose their velocity, and then fall to the earth by the influence of gravity. According to this

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are revolving bodies, or terrestrial comets which enter our atmosphere at great heights, but with a velocity sufficient to traverse it, so that they are only inflamed on their passage. Time will probably throw some light upon this subject, especially since there is now no prejudice among scientific men to prevent the multiplication of observations.

From the Journal of Education.

A WORD TO SCHOLARS.

A word to scholars who are now in attendance at our winter schools, may not be out of place.

In Maine, and indeed, in all New England, the winter is the season that is least occupied in labor, and industrial pursuits, and affords a larger amount of leasure than any other. It ever has been, and still continues to be, highly favorable, on this account, for carrying on our school operations; particularly in the country, and in country villages where, on account of the sparseness of the population, schools are sustained only for a part of the year: and indeed, in places, where they are kept through the whole year, there are always a considerable portion of the larger scholars, both male and female, whose avocations will not allow them to attend much at any other season, and who are, consequently, dependent chiefly on the winter school for perfecting themselves in the higher branches that are essential to the business duties of life.

As we have had no little experience in teaching, and are pretty well acquainted with the practical duties of the school room, as well as with the character of scholars, we feel the more at liberty to speak to you relative to your conduct and duties, than we should, were we addressing you upon a question on which our views were merely theoretical.

It is to be presumed you understand pretty fully the object of the school and appreciate its advantages. This, you will perceive, is essentially necessary, before you can receive the full benefits of it: for if you do not value the opportunity which it affords you for acquiring a knowledge of the branches that will be of service to you when you grow up men and women, and which you will need such knowledge to assist you in your business and social duties, the school will prove of but little real profit to you; and the labor and expense employed in maintaining it, will, so far as your good is concerned, be of little avail.

We hope, then, you feel in some measure at least sensible of the great advantages which it may be made to afford you; and our remarks and suggestions will be based on this supposition.

Your first great duty, —and on the right discharge of this, will depend principally your success—is the improvement of your time, your *whole* time, confining your attention while in school, and as much of it as possible while out, exclusively to the studies you are pursuing, and allowing nothing to divert it. In this, as in every other duty, and laudable pursuit, "whatever thy hand findeth to do, do with thy might." Let every lesson assigned you not only receive, but eugross your attention; and spare no labor, no effort to prepare yourself thoroughly for your recitation. Allow no portion of it to be passed over lightly, and let no fact or principle, that may be presented in it, rest until it be thoroughly understood, thoroughly mastered. Be not so anxious to advance rapidly, as well. If the studies you pass over, are but imperfectly comprehended, you will find yourselves, after a very little while, unable without a good deal of labor to retrace your steps; and at the commencement of your school another winter, you will be but little in advance of what you now are; whereas if you *finish* them as you advance, a rapid review will be all that will be needed another season, to bring them fresh to mind, and you will not be under the necessity of speuding another term in acquiring what should have been learned before. A great deal of time has been lost by an excessive desire on the part of scholars, to make too rapid progress; to do much, rather than to do well. To excel is certainly very laudable; but to excel, you must be thorough in all you do; and your real progress will be just in proportion as you are so. The number of studies you may pass over in any given term, or the advance you may make in any one of them, is not by any means to be taken as a criterion of your real progress: for the latter may be, and indeed, commonly is, in an inverse ratio to the forner, that is, your progress will commonly be slow, in proportion as your advance is rapid.

If, then, you would make substantial progress, if you would acquire such knowledge of your studies as shall be available hereafter for practical purposes, *aim to be thorough*. But in order to be thorough, you must be diligent; diligent in the improvement of your time, your whole time, not only in, but ont of school: for no idle scholar ever will, or even can become a thorough one. On this you may fully rely, as a truth clearly demonstrated by experience. As "drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags," so idleness will clothe you with darkness, intellectual and moral, and keep you in ignorance of those elementary truths and principles on which your future prosperity and well-being so much depend.

Let then, your *whole* time and attention be given to your studies. Let the whole time for which your term may continue, be regarded as your school season, and the hours that you spend in the school room, only as the time allowed for recitations, and such instruction and explanation from your teacher as your respective studies may require. Let your mornings and your evenings be given to the business; and let your studies be the great absorbing subject of all your thoughts, and at all times and in all places form the topic of conversation with your school fellows. If you will adopt this course for a single term, we feel quite confident we shall never be under the necessity of suggesting to you the continuance of it: for the results will prove so satisfactory to yourselves, and so gratifying to your parents and teachers, that you will never voluntarily abandon it.

We say, then, in conclusion, be diligent, be thorough; and let no effort be wanting on your part to make your winter school season

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INQUIRER COUNTING-HOUSE ALMANAC
For 1851.

	JAN.	FEB.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.
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2	2	6	6	3	1	5
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6	6	10	10	7	5	9
7	7	11	11	8	6	10
8	8	12	12	9	7	11
9	9	13	13	10	8	12
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27	27	31	31	28	26	30
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29	29			30	28	
30	30				29	
31	31				30	

Cure for Rheumatic Affections.

The Cramp and Pain Killer

Prepared by Curtis & Perkins, is a most efficient remedy for Rheumatic Affections, pain in the limbs, side, back or stomach, headache, toothache, bilious chills, cramp in the stomach, cramp in the limbs, wounds, bruises, cuts, burns, scalds, chilblains, frozen limbs, and all other inflammatory complaints.

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